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Extracts from a Private Letter of

the Rev. J. H. Kilbuck.

Moravian. Nov 16. 1887.

BETHEL, ALASKA, July 26, 1887.

DEAR W.: The work naturally goes slow, but I am glad to be able to report progress, at any rate. I have been forced to alter my plans somewhat, and have made up my mind to let our house go again. At this date no workmen have come, and I do not expect any until about the second week in August. I hear that Procopi is going

to bring his family along and work here all Winter, and I have sent word that he shall come. I hope to be able to collect enough logs to keep several men busy during the Fall and coming Spring. I am offering one fox-skin for four good building logs, but thus far I have only half a dozen fair logs. I expect that Ivan will bring down a good lot of logs. During the last week or ten days before school opens I will make a trip up the river for the purpose of getting scholars, and on my return I expect to collect a good-sized raft, as logs are so abundant this year.

About building this year: I will, first of all, lay the foundations for two buildings, and hope in this way to run up the walls of two houses before next Summer.

I find that the natives are waiting for the erection of a church. They declare that the Greek priest has thrown them off, and now they look to us for church privileges. Oh, for the time when I can tell these people about Christ, and Him crucified!

I expect to turn our frame dwelling-house into a school-house, and we will move into the school-house. I have calked the inside (of our future dwelling-house) pretty thoroughly, and I am now finishing it with a mixture of paper and flour. I first reduce the paper to a smooth pulp by boiling, and then I add enough flour to make it sticky. This I apply to the seams between the logs, and when dry the mixture becomes very hard. Over this I will paste strips of paper, then tack on the building paper and hang the wall-paper. The ceiling has to be straightened and tightened, and when this is finished I will tack up muslin. In this manner I hope to secure a warm, dry house, with comparatively little trouble and cost. Oh, yes; I will put in a second floor, with a two-inch space between the floors. If this works well, I will put double floors in every house we put up.

July 30.—To-day we are having rainy weather, but not the storm we expected. Mr. Lind can not get his men to work to-day, and all on account of a *balooga*. Yesterday about 3 A.M. I heard the *balooga* yell, and when I got up at 5.30 I could not find our workmen. Later in the day I saw Mr. Lind, and he said his men were all off after a *balooga*. About 8 P.M. the men arrived, bringing a lot of blubber. Johnnie's father put in the first spear, and he therefore stands at the head of the honor list. Three others are on this list, among them a small boy nine or ten years old. It

seems that the first four spears that are put into a *balooga* are those which bring credit upon the owners. Nearly the whole carcass is divided among those on the honor list, although every one participating in the chase gets a piece of blubber and meat. The superstition connected with a *balooga* I have never fully heard, but so much I have learned: those who take part in the killing observe absolute rest for four days after the killing. This is why Mr. Lind's work is at a standstill. The natives declare that they would die if they worked within these four days. However, I have no trouble to get Allexi's man to work, but I have not required any hard work of him. During the chase yesterday one man was upset by the whale, but there were no serious accidents. Some day I hope to learn the particular part which the white whale plays in the religious belief of these people. I am convinced that there is something in their belief which compels them to observe the four days of rest. This is even greater honor than is paid to the dead man.

Here is another queer practice: You know the first king salmon which is caught each season is never sold whole. Mr. Lind says he has offered outrageous prices, but has never yet been able to buy the first salmon entire. The head is always cut off. This Summer I noticed that they never cut up a real fresh king salmon; it must lay at least twenty-four hours. Not even the smallest particle of the first salmon is allowed to be wasted. Nor is a dog allowed to come near a fresh salmon. They say that if these several points are not observed, the non-observers will not catch any more salmon.

I am looking forward to the time when I can visit Kalouyak, as Mr. Sipary says that there the people still hold the ancient religious beliefs of the Utes. Their customs and habits are more primitive, for they have not come in contact with other than traveling traders, and with these even very seldom.

On the whole, I have but very little trouble with any of the boys, nor yet with Allexi or Mattie, and Mr. Lind expressed surprise at our being able to control the boys. They are certainly very obedient, and will not do anything without permission. As to work, they get along reasonably well. Johnnie is the only one who shirks whenever there is the least chance. Andrew will in all likelihood turn out to be very much like Augustus, provided he keeps away from Johnnie's influence. Eddie is turning out remarkably well. He is the most conscientious boy we have; besides in play, especially in making playthings, he is generally ahead of the rest. Allexi is still the same, although at times there are signs of improvement. As far as I can learn from these signs, I think he will become a steady man. Augustus associates more with Allexi than with the boys. He attends to the fish-trap, and proves himself serviceable in many ways. He never gets "pouty spells," although occasionally he is blue, but he is never ugly.

The following is a list of the "rages" which have reigned over the hearts of the boys at Bethel: The bow-and-arrow rage, which began in early

Spring. After Mr. Sipary left, the boat fever manifested itself. Little Allexi was the one who first launched an "aug-yot." The first boats were very small, but as the fever became more intense the size of the craft increased, until finally nothing would do but a pilot bread-box. This was the climax, and then the fever spent its force, as I could not sacrifice any of the large boxes to the mercy of the waves. We encouraged the boys in their play by furnishing them with strings, bits of red for flags and material for sails. I wish you could be with us and enjoy seeing these children playing their games. Eddie may need something to complete his toys; up he jumps and comes straight to you, much as your own boy would, makes his request, confident of getting the articles needed to make his cup of pleasure full. Some things of little worth, which I might have thrown away long ago, but which I kept because I thought it might come handy some day, now help me out more than once when a boy comes with this or that to be fixed.

Allexi continues to be satisfactory, and as for Mattie, Mr. Lind says there is not another native woman like her on this whole river. She has indeed turned out very well.

Extracts from a Private Letter to Miss Amanda Jones, of Bethlehem, Pa.

CARMEL, August 29, 1887.

DEAR MISS JONES: Many are the letters I have written to you in spirit, but the time slips by and the letters do not actually get written, so that at this late date I am only beginning what will necessarily be only a short and hasty letter, for the last vessel for this season will probably leave here this week. On last Thursday, August 25, we received Bro. Weinland's letter, written at Ounalaska. Can you imagine our surprise? While we were here so anxiously waiting to hear from them, they were already 'way back home again. Is it not sad that poor little Bessie is so sick, and Bro. Weinland, too, in such poor health? What trying scenes they must have passed through last Winter, with so much sickness and another little one born in the midst of Winter. We feel very anxious to hear how they got through with the rest of their journey. I fear traveling across the continent in the month of July with two such young children was no easy matter. Still, they are in the Lord's hands, and although He has seen fit to afflict them we hope and pray that He may again soon see fit to heal.

We received two such sweet and loving letters from Mrs. Kilbuck on Saturday, the one dated May 3 and the other June 23. She wrote very cheerfully, and says they expect to open their school the first week in September, but how the poor woman is going to get along alone with all the work resting upon her shoulders, is often an anxious thought with me. They expect to keep most of their scholars as boarders, and we think, too, that is the only way in which a school can be successfully conducted with the surrounding circumstances. She further says she has to make all the clothing that they wear, and as she is in such

it not be an excellent thing if cast-off clothing could be sent sometimes to help clothe these children. I often thought of it before I received Mrs. Kilbuck's letter, and was only strengthened in the idea upon hearing of her experience.

Some time ago we washed and dressed the late chief's grand-daughter, little Ega. I had been working until about 3 P.M., preparing a cast-off, or rather outgrown, outfit of the children's to dress her in, and then sent Sophie in search of her. She soon returned, triumphantly leading her by the hand, for Sophie and the children seemed to feel quite as much interest as we did. First of all, we gave her a piece of sugar-cake to eat, and this was quickly done. Meanwhile I got water ready in a tub to begin operations with. We called her father in (he was working here at the time) to ask his permission to cut her hair, but for this occasion he managed to speak enough English to say "No" decidedly, and so of course we did not urge it at all; merely told him it was all right, and he went again to his work. We then showed the little girl the clothes and tried to make her understand that she was to have them on. Then we led her out to the tub and showed her what we meant to do. We began gently at first to wash her face, and then began by degrees to take off what scant clothing she had on, being a filthy little shirt, pair of pants and dress, all mere rags. Finally we got her into the tub without any trouble. For a moment she did not seem to like the idea of sitting down in the water, but a little reassurance brought her all right. "Aunt Mary" washed her head vigorously with kerosene oil; also her entire body, in order to soak the dirt, and then I kept washing her body with the warm water and carbolic soap while "Aunt Mary" kept on with the head, and we really succeeded in getting her clean. The most interesting part then followed; that was the dressing. We put a little shirt on her, shoes and stockings, garters, waist drawers, skirt (flannel), and a little navy-blue flannel dress, finishing off with an apron and a collar, and when she went home we added a pair of overshoes and a little woolen cap. Her hair we combed thoroughly with a fine tooth comb, and relieved her of a number of dead "little wanderers," but could not rid her of all the mischief they had done. We combed, however, as long as we dared, and then braided her hair in two braids from the front at the top, tying it back with a bright yellow ribbon, and then braided this in with the lower back hair into one braid, fastened with another yellow bow. She was a perfect success when finished, and looked very nice indeed. One would hardly dare to think that dress and cleanliness could effect so great a change. Although she is much smaller, I think she must be about Ray's age. After she was all finished she played very nicely with the children, and they were nearly wild with joy. They jumped and skipped around her and clapped their hands in their excitement. "Oh," Ray would say again and again, "she is clean now. Mamma, can't we play wif her?" We allowed her to stay and eat supper with us, and she behaved very nicely. We were astonished. She started in, of course, with her fingers, but we told her not to and showed her

a condition as not to be able to run the machine, she has been doing all the sewing by hand. Would

how to use knife, fork and spoon, and it was remarkable how nicely she ate. She seemed to prize her handkerchief above everything else, however, and made ample use of it, to our great amusement. Nearly, if not quite all, the children of the village gathered about the house, skipping from one window to the other, standing on tiptoes, stretching to see a glimpse of Ega. I rather imagined that her father acted as though he feared we would keep her altogether; at least when he was through with his work and ready to go home he eagerly called her, but she did not seem at all inclined to go; but at last he insisted upon her going, and as we watched them we saw he was proudly leading her by the hand. Poor little thing, would it had been possible to keep her here. We all feel convinced, however, that she would soon become civilized, but how it can ever be effected if she must remain in her home I would not venture to foretell. Later in the evening she stood on the top of their hut, surrounded by the other children of the village, undergoing a thorough examination.

Our household goods arrived from Green Bay in pretty good shape; yes, I must say better than we had expected. We found our organ in a better condition than we had expected, although badly swollen, bruised and very moldy; still, since it has become thoroughly dry again, it seems to be all right. Our dishes, however, were nearly all broken, most of them so badly as scarcely to be recognized what they had been.

Our work thus far is progressing nicely. If the weather permit, I think the shingling of the roof of the school-house and wood-shed (in one) will be finished this week, and then the weather will not interfere much any more, as most of the work will be "under roof." There still remains a great deal to be done, however, before Winter sets in, and we earnestly hope and pray that a long and pleasant Fall may be granted us. To-day we enjoyed venison for the first time in Alaska. Geese and partridges we have frequently, but would have more if Mr. Wolff had the time to go hunting. There are thousands of wild geese flying about in this neighborhood every day, but they seem to be afraid of the house, and always branch off in some other direction when they get near here.

We have had almost incessant rain throughout the months of July and August. Friday, Saturday and Sunday last have been the first and only really clear and beautiful days for a long time. The scenery to the north-northwest of us is beautiful, the lofty mountains forming a dark background, sometimes against a gorgeously tinged sky. Sometimes, too, these dark mountains have clouds settled down upon them, until their summits are lost in light clouds, giving them the appearance of being on fire, encircled with smoke. When it is fair, the sunsets are most brilliant and about the only really beautiful sight one ever sees here.

Marion has been wearing her braces ever since we are here and moves about with wonderful alacrity. Still, we have reason to believe that it is not benefiting her quite as it should, and at times she has considerable pain, whereas formerly there was no pain at all. We will write to the doctor,

I think, and see what can be done or what he thinks of it. Meanwhile we hope and pray that the Lord may see fit to remove this difficulty. Some days ago she was listening to Bible stories, and when we came to the place where Jesus healed the sick, the lame and blind received their sight, etc., she exclaimed with all childish impulse: "Oh! how I wish Jesus was right here in the world now: how I would ask Him to heal my leg, and then I wouldn't have to wear my brace any more." She bears it very patiently and never complains of it at all, never even asks to wear her other shoes; but for all that, I think it annoys her. Ray is as hearty and healthy as ever, full of fun from the time of rising till bed-time. He is also a great curiosity to the natives with his light curls. They generally watch all his antics with a sort of reverential awe.

We are all quite well, and, I think, shall be quite comfortable throughout the Winter. We certainly have all things far better than we deserve. Surely, "the Lord is good and His mercy endureth for ever." "Aunt Mary" sends her love to you. She has proved a great help and comfort to us. She is very well, and has been, in fact, throughout our entire journey and all, with the exception of a little of the inevitable sea-sickness. I must close now, although reluctantly, for I feel as though much remained of which I should like to write if time would allow. We should be pleased to hear from you in the Spring if you feel able to write. Mr. Wolff joins me in sending love and best wishes.

And now, resting assured that we are remembered in your prayers, and that the same God and Father of us all watcheth over us, I remain affectionately your distant friend,

M. E. WOLFF.

THE ALASKA MISSION.
Moravian ~~November 23. 87.~~
Extracts from a Private Letter of Mrs. Kilbuck
to Miss Amanda Jones, of Bethlehem, Pa.

BETHEL, ALASKA, July 21, 1887.

MISS AMANDA JONES.—*Dear Friend and Sister:*
—In the short time I have for writing this Fall I feel that I can not do justice to your kind letter written April 21, 1887, and received this June 28. It is so kind of you to write every year, even if when you must suffer while doing it. My heart melted with love and sympathy for you when I read the letter accompanying the presents you sent in the box. You bear your grief so nobly, it gives me new strength and courage for my small trials; mine seem so small when I look at yours.

The presents you sent were very nice. I have not had time to read the book yet. Little Kittie's skirt fits nicely and was all the more acceptable because it was a ready-made garment. We have so little time to sew unless we neglect more important work. I have an abundance of materials and some most beautiful dresses sent to the little one, but when they will get made I can not tell. The box sent from Bethlehem was so much satis-

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faction to us both. Words can not express our feeling of gratitude for the dear ones who have done so much to cheer and encourage us. Another box came from the Indian Mission in Kansas and was so much more than we ever looked for. We can scarcely believe all this is true. You should have seen us run down to the beach and go to meet the nearing traders where with breathless excitement we grasped our bundle of sixty letters. Our hearts beat quickly as we hurried to the house, and we soon were looking for the latest home letters. They were all loving, cheerful and hopeful and with one impulse our hearts raised to the Giver of all good to thank Him for His love and mercy to those we loved. It was more than a week before we got all the letters read and only a few of them can be answered yet this Fall. We are very busy and the time is so short.

We oftentimes think of the dear ones who left us this Spring and wonder how they are and where they are. Dear little Bessie! I am so anxious to hear how she stood the traveling. She has had so much to suffer in her little life already. On their account we will be so anxious for our Fall's mail. It was hard to see them go, but for their sakes we urged it. We think of them very often and the house seems empty without them; but we are all very busy which keeps us from being at all lonesome. You will no doubt have heard about Kittie's sickness and my sending for Mr. Kilbuck after he had gone down to meet the vessel. She was very sick for about three weeks, but God has answered our prayers and she is now in good health and a great joy and comfort to us both. We are all well and pray for continued health that though few in number the work may be pushed forward as much as possible. I am very busy making clothing for the school and unless I keep at it steadily I will not get through in time.

Kittie is just awake and is talking to me in Eskimo, she can not talk half as much English as she can the native. She was a year old last Friday and weighed only nineteen pounds. Bessie weighed that at eight months, but Katie is very slender.

I must close now and write to the Mission party at Nushagak. With prayers and best wishes to you from both my husband and myself, I remain your affectionate sister.

EDITH M. KILBUCK.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., JANUARY 18, 1888.

OFFICIAL ITEMS.

REPORTED BY THE PROVINCIAL BOARD.

WHO WILL GO TO THE ASSISTANCE OF
BROTHER AND SISTER KILBUCK IN ALASKA?—
Our faithful missionaries, left alone at Bethel during the present long and dreary Winter, must

have assistance as soon as navigation opens in Spring, and therefore the Provincial Board is constrained to issue another call for a missionary to Alaska. As it is deemed best to send an unmarried brother at this time, we call upon the young men of the Church, and confidently trust that some one will be found willing, for the Lord's sake, to devote himself to this noble work.

No scholarly attainments are required for the work—only a sound body and a heart consecrated to the Lord and His holy cause.

In case any friend of the cause knows of a suitable brother who may not see this call, or who may lack courage to come forward of his own accord, we request that the name of such a brother may be sent us.

THE NEEDS OF THE ALASKA MISSION.

The official item, to be found in its appropriate place, is a loud call to our Province from its Governing Board to come to the help of the Lord in the work among the Eskimos in Alaska.

It is a call, first of all, for brethren to volunteer for the arduous Mission-service itself, an undertaking for which not every one is physically qualified whose heart is right. Yet doubtless we have not a few young and middle-aged single brethren, whose physical constitution is robust and sound, who have no bodily defect, and at the same time are blessed with an energetic, forceful, sanguine disposition. A man of this kind is eminently needed, and one who habitually looks on the bright side of things, does not soon despond, and yet is not too easily satisfied, has steadfast perseverance and unremitting desire to be active in well-doing. These strike us as eminently the qualities to be desired in a missionary to go to the assistance of Brother and Sister Kilbuck. We do not think that any brother who has these qualifications and who believes he hears the voice of the Master calling for him, should hesitate to offer himself simply from fear that he has not the education demanded for the ministry in a cultured, Christian land. Sound good sense and the average intellectual attainments will be ample mental qualifications. If in addition, however, he has education and some medical knowledge, so much the better. We trust that more than one consecrated brother, so equipped, will reply to the request for a laborer in Bethel, Alaska.

May the Lord Himself move some such person to say, "Here am I; send me."

But the need is not alone for a suitable helper in person. It is a need also of means, which appeals to all the members and friends of our Church. We write with knowledge when we say that even were there no prospect of sending out a missionary, the needs of the Mission for the year ending July 31, 1888—the financial year of our Society for Propagating the Gospel—are such that a decided increase in contributions must yet appear if the Society is to send its usual contribution to the General Mission Treasury, and it would be a shame to have to cut down that, every dollar of it being absolutely necessary for our Church's work. This increase in the expense of the Mission is owing to the unexpected return of Brother Weinland and family for providential reasons, the cost of which comes into this year's accounts. Since, now, there is before us the necessity of providing for the transportation of a brother to Bethel in the Spring of the present year, it is very evident that we must yet further bestir ourselves.

We believe that our Church will show itself equal to the needs of the day. The Alaska Mission has resulted in such a blessing in its reaction on the spirit of our congregations that we can not afford to let it languish for want of proper support. This is a plain truth very generally realized. And we do not believe that our General Mission Treasury is about to be made to feel that the American Province can not carry on a work without "robbing Peter to pay Paul." The sentiment is rather abroad that our Society for Propagating the Gospel will better voice the spirit of our Province by getting into a condition to send \$10,000 a year instead of \$9000.

But in order to bring about these desirable ends, liberal and prompt contributions must be sent, both for the Alaska work in particular and for the work of the Society for Propagating the Gospel over against the general cause. Let it be remembered that the brother who goes to Alaska must leave for San Francisco in a couple of months, and so let the gifts come in good time.

Possibly some of our people are in a position to send supplies of clothing or desirable articles of various sorts to the missionaries, rather than gifts in money, or in addition to such gifts. We

have no hesitation in saying that the Brethren Joseph H. Traeger and J. Samuel Krause, of Bethlehem, the special Committee of the Board of Directors of the Society for Propagating the Gospel on supplies for Alaska, will be very glad to answer any inquiries touching the matter.

Nor let us forget, as we read the call of the Provincial Elders and become acquainted with the peculiar manner of life of the missionaries from a perusal of their diaries, to invoke the protection and blessing of God on those now laboring at Bethel and at Carmel. Amid the vicissitudes of climate and the possible dangers from evil men, may the God of Israel, who slumbers not, guard them and give them reward for their steadfast testimony to the name of Jesus in the bringing of heathen souls from darkness to the marvelous light of saving truth!

Alaska (formerly Russian America).¹

Bethel, near the trading-post called Mumtrehla-gamute, about eighty miles up the Kuskokwim River. Carmel, three miles from Nushagak, or Fort Alexander in Bristol Bay.

Our Brethren and Sisters Weinland and Kilbuck have so advanced in their study of the language as to be able to dispense with an interpreter in their ordinary intercourse with the natives. School was held at Bethel in the Winter, but the results were somewhat unsatisfactory, owing to irregularity of attendance on the part of the scholars; these were, however, diligent and desirous of getting on. Several fathers expressed a wish to have their children taught.

In March, 1886, Bro. Weinland undertook a journey to the Yukon River, to seek out a man who had agreed to assist the brethren in the building of their house, and whose knowledge of the languages spoken on the upper and lower Kuskokwim promised to be of service. Their intention of engaging him, however, was thwarted by the discovery that he was accused, and probably with justice, of having committed murder. At Tchukvok, Bro. Weinland visited the priest and missionary of the Greek Church. This is the only Mission-station of that Church north of Nushagak, and the priest in charge has a parish of about four thousand souls.

Bro. Wolff left San Francisco in the Summer of 1886, with material for a second school to be established at Nushagak, two hundred miles from Bethel. By the advice of Inspector Johnson, Bro. Wolff erected the school-house, not at Nushagak, but at the Eskimo village of Kanuluk, three miles distant, near Fort Alexander. The officials of the American trading-post placed workman at his disposal, and Eskimos also assisted. Converse with the latter was practicable only by means of signs. The Brethren Weinland and Kilbuck were, unfortunately, unable to meet

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Bro. Wolff, who left Alaska for Bethlehem in September. The honesty of the natives obviated the need of guarding the house until his return with wife and family to Kanuluk this year.

The amount annually required for the support of these two stations is estimated at \$3,600.²

¹ "Bro. Hartmann and I made a mistake three years ago while on the Exploring Expedition. We then accepted figures as they were given to us by the traders, and later verifications have not always found these correct.

² For example, with regard to the situation of Bethel. We reported that Mumtrekhlagamute, the nearest native village, was 150 miles from the mouth of the Kuskokwim. Later verifications from maps, etc., reduce this to eighty miles. Hence, being so near the sea, the prevailing weather here at Bethel is windy, *very windy*."—*Bro. Weinland, in "Letters on Alaska."*

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Jan 1888

sacred. Kangra, which also possesses a fine modern bridge, consists of two towns, of which the older fell almost into ruins in consequence of the last famine.

“NAM THANG SONG.”

WHAT do you make of that, dear young readers? “Nam” looks like Latin, and “Song” like English; but what is “Thang.” The whole sentence is Tibetan, and it means, “It has cleared up!” or “It is all bright again!” Such was the cheering morning greeting of his coolies, or baggage carriers, to the Rev. F. Redslob, Superintendent of our Mission in Central Asia, on the day when he intended to cross the Taglang Pass (18,000 feet in height), near the Northern boundary of British India. He was on his way to found the mission at Leh, the capital of Ladak. The previous evening had closed in with a dark and heavy cloud hanging far down the mountain. That threatened snow, which would greatly increase the difficulties and dangers of a journey amid those trackless wastes of rock and glacier. Perhaps he would not be able to ascend the mountain at all, but would have a long and tedious delay at the foot of the Taglang. “The pass,” says Br. Redslob, “seemed to my imagination an image of the future of our Ladak Mission, and my own immediate prospects. I felt dispirited, and lay down to rest with a weight of trouble on my heart. But I endeavoured to cast my care upon the Lord, and commended myself and our whole mission work into His hands.

“How great was my joy when the next morning I was awakened by the cry, ‘NAM THANG SONG!’ (‘The weather is quite bright again’). It was indeed a lovely morning. The

clouds had vanished, and the snow, which had merely sprinkled the pass as with a thin covering of sugar, had entirely disappeared before I reached the heights. I could not possibly have had more favourable weather for such an ascent and descent, and the experiences of the following days were destined to fill me with deep gratitude, and reveal very clearly how graciously the Lord had arranged all things for me."

That is the pleasing incident, which stirred up your friend Felix to write the following Poem, already printed at greater length in the "Periodical Accounts," and sent as a cheery greeting to each of your dear missionaries in Asia, Africa, America, and Australia.

CHEERLESS in the evening hour is the prospect he commands, As at foot of Himalaya, wrapt in thought, our Redslob stands ; Eighteen thousand feet of climbing is the task to-morrow brings, And he gauges all before him, and he thinks a hundred things : Will the undertaking prosper ? is the mountain pathway clear ? Are the coolies to be trusted ?—then a sudden sickening fear Seizes him, as gazing upwards he perceives that, sure and slow, Clouds, *black* heavy clouds, are gathering, ominous of falling snow. Let them but discharge their burden,—and they *will*, the coolies say, Then all hope of further progress must consume in long delay. For a moment all is gloomy ; blows the night wind bleak and chill :— Disappointment seems to crush him at the foot of Taglang hill ; Yet it is *but* for a moment ; soon regained his self-control, And the peace which passeth knowledge takes possession of his soul !

For within his chamber kneeling, contrite, confident, and mild, Angels might have heard his breathing, "Lord, forgive Thy anxious child ;

Pardon if for one brief instant I have sought to take from Thee What is Thine by right and promise ; take it, take it, Lord, from me. Be to-morrow in Thy keeping ; mine to follow, Thine to lead ! Thine the wisdom and the power, mine the weakness and the need. Glad shall be my full submission whatsoever Thy decree, For my will with Thine is blended, and Thou, Lord, art all to me !"

With the daybreak rise the coolies, all expectant to behold Everywhere the sad fulfilment of the troubles they foretold. Scarce a flake of snow has fallen, not a cloud bedims the sky, And they shout for very gladness ; "Nam thang song !" they loudly cry,

As in eager haste they hurry to the sleeper where he lies ; "Rouse thee quickly for the journey, 'Nam thang song,' good Sahib, rise ;

Gird thee for the upward journey ; bright the sky and clear the way ; 'Nam thang song,' good Padre Sahib, we shall cross Taglang to-day." Then with gratitude and courage Redslob and his coolies start, Every footstep fraught with danger, but there's music in his heart ; For the Master's smile is on him ; this makes all his troubles light. Rocky shelving, mountain torrent, steep descent, and slippery height, Precipices, all he passes, till, by angel hand sustained, He has left it all behind him, and his journey's end attained.

Work on, Redslob, with thy comrades in that hard Tibetan field ; Ne'er despont, though scant the harvest which your labours seem to yield ;

For in God's own time the message ye so faithfully proclaim Shall be owned by tens of thousands to the honour of His name. And the wilderness shall blossom, and the desert place rejoice, At the brightness of His coming and the music of His voice.

Such the word to you, ye others, who on many a foreign soil Delve and sow, and yet know something of the fruitlessness of toil. Courage, brothers ! out in Greenland, and in ice-bound Labrador, In the Western Indian islands ; on the Nicaraguan shore ;¹

On the rivers of Guiana,² or among the swart Fingoos ;³ Or in Ramahyuck's⁴ enclosure, tending the despised Papoos ; Or in Canada's dominions, serving out the Word of grace To the Delaware and Munsey, remnants of a fading race ; Or like self-denying Müller,⁵ with his brave wife at his side, Telling the in-gathered lepers how for them, too, Christ has died. And you of this latest venture, who but yesterday went forth With your lives of consecration to the wild Alaskan⁶ North, Take our heart-felt blessing with you, and amid your ice and snow On the drear Kuskokwim river, let it comfort you to know That upon our hearts we bear you, and though miles may surge

between,

In the truest bond of union we are with you on the scene. Courage, one and all, ye brothers ! no occasion for dismay ; Let not "may-be" come between you and the praises of to-day ; Ne'er anticipate the morrow, for ye cannot know its form ; Fretting never frightened thunder ; sighing never stayed a storm. But when clouds come darkling o'er you, as ye face stern duty's height,

Then remember He who sends them can disperse them in a night. Work with patience, pray with trusting, each one faithful at his post,

And ere long the wave of blessing which swept o'er Mosquito coast Shall reach your remotest borders, and refresh and gladden you. Many a Daukra and Quamwatla, Kukallaya and Yulu⁷ Shall rise up to call you blessed, and to verify the words, There's success in David's battle, for the battle is the Lord's.

¹ Mission in the Mosquito Indian Reserve, Central America.

² *i.e.*, Dutch Guiana or Surinam, and British Guiana (Demerara).

³ Missions in South Africa to Fingoos, Hottentots and Kaffirs.

⁴ Ramah-yuck (Ramah, our home) is the second aboriginal reserve under the care of Moravian missionaries in Victoria, Australia.

⁵ "House-father" of the Leper Home at Jerusalem.

⁶ Alaska, until 1867 Russian America, is the scene of the newest Moravian mission.

⁷ Some of the places affected by the recent awakening among the Mosquito Indians.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., FEBRUARY 1, 1888.

WHO WILL GO TO THE ASSISTANCE OF BROTHER AND SISTER KILBUCK IN ALASKA ?— Our faithful missionaries, left alone at Bethel during the present long and dreary Winter, must have assistance as soon as navigation opens in Spring, and therefore the Provincial Board is constrained to issue another call for a missionary to Alaska. As it is deemed best to send an unmarried brother at this time, we call upon the young men of the Church, and confidently trust that some one will be found willing, for the Lord's sake, to devote himself to this noble work.

No scholarly attainments are required for the work—only a sound body and a heart consecrated to the Lord and His holy cause.

In case any friend of the cause knows of a suitable brother who may not see this call, or who may lack the courage to come forward of his own accord, we request that the name of such a brother may be sent us.

THE PROVINCIAL BOARD.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., FEBRUARY 22, 1888.

LETTERS, newspapers and all MAILABLE matter intended for the Mission at Nushagak (Carmel), Alaska, in order to be forwarded by the first vessel sailing for Alaska, should be mailed to the *care of the Alaska Commercial Company, San Francisco*, no later than the 1st of March. Letters to Bethel can not be sent by this opportunity.

The Little Missionary.

BETHLEHEM, PA., FEBRUARY, 1888.

To Do Good—Forget Not.

(Heb. 13: 16.)

EHE LITTLE MISSIONARY had no doubt in his mind that as soon as the Christmas and New Year seasons were over, and school fairly under way again, letters from the children would begin to re-appear on his pages. Here is the first one. It is from

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Jan. 15, 1888.

DEAR LITTLE MISSIONARY:—I am very glad to send two dollars to the Alaska Mission. We always read THE LITTLE MISSIONARY; and are very much interested in the children of Mrs. Kilbuck's school; so we would like to help it along with our money. In our little "Home" Sunday-school this afternoon, we read Brother Wolle's beautiful letter; and thought the story of little Stanley was just lovely. Sister and I will try to gather more money, and hope to send you some more before very long. I hope that some other children will soon write letters; because I like to read them when they come. I hope too, that you will get much money.

From your friend, PAUL.

The two dollars are most welcome. THE LITTLE MISSIONARY acknowledges Paul's gift herewith, and sends its thanks to him.

After reading Mrs. Kilbuck's pleasant diary jottings, it is no wonder that Paul became much interested in her scholars. We are, all of us, glad to know that such good work is going on in Alaska, and that the poor Eskimo children are being lifted out of the grime of their sad condition. Both Paul and the rest of us, will be still more attracted to this school, after hearing what Mrs. Kilbuck has further to say, in

this number of the paper, about Alexi, and Mattie, and Augustus, and Lippie, and the rest of the natives at the Station.

Now, please note a few things at the close of the letter.

1. "*Sister and I will try to gather more money.*" That is the true spirit. If all the children will make it their own in 1888, we shall have abundant loving donations coming in for Alaska.

2. "*I hope that some other children will soon write letters.*" That is the wish, also, of THE LITTLE MISSIONARY. Don't forget to send us your pleasant communications.

3. "*I always like to read them.*" So do we. So does everybody. Please don't disappoint Paul, and us, and everybody.

Speaking of Mrs. Kilbuck's school reminds me of the school-house.

What a comical sight it must have been to see the Eskimo dog, "Agootuck," having an eye to comfort within, no doubt, jump clean through the pane of the closed window.

I wonder whether he gave as nimble a leap, as a rabbit did, which Mr. Moravian, when a boy at Bethlehem, saw jump through a window-pane.

Bunnie, caught somewhere, had been brought into the room of a dear old house nearly opposite the old Sun Hotel. He had been duly petted and stroked by the half a dozen, or so, lads who had gathered in, when lo! like a flash—some one having held him too loosely while trying to pass him on to the next—he sprang with a bound at the window-pane, and, in a twinkling, was on the pavement.

I am sorry to record the melancholy fact that, with all his cuteness and bumping of head against the window-pane, Bunnie was presently caught again, somewhere in Cunow's Alley; and that, finally—well—you know the rest. Agootuck fared better. He still lives.

ALASKA.

ERE is a third glimpse: June 26, 1887.—"Another week is gone, and with a light and joyful heart I can write that it has pleased the Lord to spare to us our little Kate; although, at one time we very much feared that she would never be well again. . . . Alexi has been faithful at the fishing, but he has only taken about 30 all the week. . . . The sick man died the next day after reaching his home. . . . The mosquitoes arrived on Tuesday; and so did the "Great Talker" from the lakes, with a relationship of twenty-one, besides Mattie, who is his daughter. They spent three days with us, and then went on up the river after wood. This is the first bidarka

of the season. Last year just as many came to get wood.

July 6.—I have not much time to write, but will add a few lines at least to the diary. Bro. Kilbuck is corking the school-house; Alexi-man and Augustus are fishing. Lippie is cutting up the fish, and the little boys are washing their clothes. . . . The mosquitoes are very bad. . . . We hope to get plenty of logs this year. Mr. Lind says that there are enough for ten houses in about a day's journey up the river, and all of them good logs. Natives are plenty just now, and so are eggs. I never saw mosquitoes so plentiful, nor so insatiable. We have a quota also of sand flies. Bro. Kilbuck has planted his garden, again, on the island. . . . We are having dry weather, but everything is beautifully green and Summer-like. . . . The other dogs killed "Agootuck," and besides him, we have lost another dog that died a natural death.

July 9.—Another busy week is gone. The boys have been fishing steadily. Last night Augustus got 24 salmon and to-day

Alexi caught 24 also. Augustus is out again to-night. Lippie is at her post, whenever any fish are to be cured, and is steadily growing in favor. . . . The little boys each got a Barlow knife sent by Mr. Detwiller, and are as proud as if each knife had cost a dollar. Poor little Eddie lost his the very first day, and was so grieved that he cried until his face became quite swollen. He looked the picture of misery. I gave him mine, with the proviso that, as soon as he recovers his own, he is to return it. He carries it in a sack closed at the top and swung around his neck. His hand is always over the precious spot and he lives in constant dread of

losing the second knife.

July 14.—The boys are having good success at fishing, and Bro. Kilbuck had to enlarge the fish-frames to-day. Since yesterday they have caught 67 silver salmon and 4 king salmon. Alexi-man's father is here and has a good large trap nearly finished.

Bro. Kilbuck finds corking the school-house a never-ending job. The boys help; but, of course, he has to go over the work again. . . . The Alaska rains have commenced. . . . Bro. Kilbuck says that his garden on the island is looking well.

July 15.—Last night a high wind blew and in the morning our fish-frame was

lever with the ground. Bro. Kilbuck put it up again to-day, and made an arrangement for smoking the fish. . . . A woman at Kikichtogamute killed her three year old boy in a fit of bad temper. The child was sitting down, and took her contuck of food, and began to eat. The woman caught her boy by the shoulders and jammed him forward violently several times. On letting go, the blood spurted from his mouth, and he died in a very few moments.

sand flies also are bad. Fifty-nine fish in the trap to-day.

August 14.—It has been rainy and stormy most of the past week. Mr. Lind arrived from the ware-house on Wednesday 12. He found it to be impossible to bring all our goods; so he left part of our lumber and our bureaus. We need the bureaus so much. I am sorry he left them. He had some funny things to relate about the natives. When he told Fetca, his interpreter, to raise the jib-sail he would most surely pull at one of the anchor ropes or a loose rope somewhere. Mr. Lind told him he was only fit for ballast, and that he would tie the jib-rope around his neck so he would know which rope to pull.

Nicola, the Yukon carpenter, has been on the rampage for a day or two. Like all natives it goes hard to work steadily, and when things went a little slow he found occasion to complain of everything and ended by loafing for a half day. He is in a good humor to-day. The rafters to the school-house are going up to-day. It is raining and so cool that we are obliged to keep some fire.

August 17.—Another week of rain and storm. The men can only work between showers. Four of them are shingling the roof. Yesterday a young native brought a raft of logs from Mr. Sipary, and he himself offered to help at the building. This is the second raft Mr. Sipary has sent down and the logs are good ones too.

Mr. Lind thrashed a man from Neposkiogamute to-day for telling him that he stole and lied, while the native himself was only trying to get out of paying his honest debt. Some from that village are very dishonest and mean, trying to get all they can for little or nothing. When Mr. Lind was on his way to the ware-house, as he passed their village he sent a man over to get some fish for his dinner, and not a fish would they let him have, because he had not sent the pay along, while every man in the village is owing him for goods. Mr. Lind is honest, but as he says, "They haven't got any sense."

For supper we had young onions grown from sets that were sent from San Francisco this year. They were very small, but tasted splendid. Mr. Lind started up to Kolmakoffsky to-day. I suppose he will meet John somewhere with his raft. John has been gone about three weeks now, and I am pretty sure his provisions have given out by this time. If so, he must live on fish for awhile, which is very tiresome.

August 22.—John arrived on the night of the 18th, but on account of the stormy weather was unable to get more than twenty good logs. He was about two hundred and fifty miles up the river, but logs are so scarce, that it was with great effort he got any. He lost his hat in the river, and wore a red handkerchief on his head a good part of the time. He looked rather wild and neglected, but clean clothes and a good wash changed him greatly. We all were anxious to have him tell the history of the trip, and many interesting things he told, part of which I will give.

Bears were so plenty that it was no rarity to see them. The tracks are everywhere. One big bear growled around their tent one night, and the natives were so frightened that they insisted on discharging a rifle to scare it away. He saw one bear, caught a lynx and saw two more. He saw where a monster of an elk had been walking. Where John's feet made no impressions in the sand the tracks of the elk sank in about a foot. I never saw one, but they must be immense. A native lifted John, and then said he did not weigh as much as one haunch of an elk. The tracks of one bear were as large around as a saucer, and the tips of the claws went into the sand for three inches beyond the solid track. The bear must have been very large.

When he was near home a young native met him and said he had come from our place and that his (John's) wife had died a little bit while he was there. John was scared and he prepared to come home at once, meanwhile asking him what was wrong. He told him that my head went over to one side, and the other woman took me into the bed-room while her husband poured something out of a bottle for me. Then they took a round thing off of the stove and took it to me, but he did not know what that was for. He

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., JANUARY 25, 1888.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Extracts from the Journal of Mrs. J. H. Kilbuck,
Bethel, Alaska.

[CONTINUED.]

To My Dear Father, Joseph Romig, of Independence, Kansas:

The young man Tutock proves to be a good workman. Procopi, the Ingalik, works well and gets along well with Tutock. The wind blew sparks from their mosquito fire, and while all were eating supper, set the school-house on fire and burned it pretty well, charring it black to the ceiling. We were all badly scared and thankful it was no worse.

August 24, 1886.—To-day John and Ivan start up the river for another raft of logs. This time they expect to go all the way to Kolmakoffsky and collect logs around Mr. Sipary's place. This time he will be gone longer than the last time. Six fierce-looking natives from the Yukon were here to-day. They did not seem to have any particular business, but were looking around. The weather is quite cool and wintry. The days are getting enough shorter to be quite noticeable. Only for the last few nights have we been able to see any stars since the middle of May for the light of the sun. About midnight we can see them now.

August 25.—Last night John came home about 12 o'clock. He met another raft sent by Mr. Sipary, and so it was not necessary for him to go up. He was very glad on account of the disagreeable and cold weather. He also heard that the Yukon men were of a party of desperadoes who had been robbing stores and threatening life. He felt very uneasy on this account, and gladly came home again.

August 26.—To-day I had a fine badarka ride over to the island to see John's garden, which is about a mile distant. The waves were rolling against us, and we rode nicely. The air was fine. I got some few radishes from the garden and picked some wild raspberries. Katie never wakened while I was gone. The school-house is almost finished. The ceiling is of half-logs, and they are almost as smooth as boards. The floor is of the same, and looks smooth and even. John has planed the partition boards and Bro. Weinland made the door-frame. Some few logs are being hewed for the other house. The weather is cool and damp, with frosty nights very much like November weather at home. I am doing the house-work and Carrie is sewing. The babies are well, and the sweetest little things that ever blessed our common household. May God bless and keep them well.

August 27.—Bro. Weinland's weak lungs cause him much trouble. This morning he was not up for breakfast. I very much fear he can not long stand this severe climate. All day he has been

resting, and to-night feels better. John has been working at the chapel entry to-day. This afternoon some nine boats came up from Neposkiogamute with women and children, come to see the new building that was going up and to see the new baby (Katie). When I went out, to my sore vexation what should I see but a row of woolly-headed, half-naked, dirty-faced, smiling old women sitting on my onion-bed, and almost ruining it. I asked them to come and sit on the woodpile, where I was, and one old woman took particular pains to sit very close to me and talk at a great rate, showing her mouthful of worn-down teeth, that are double in front as well as back, making a horrid picture. With faithful Abraham (native boy), I have been working hard all day, baking bread, roasting geese, cleaning house and caring for my little one. Abraham is a surprise in learning English. To-day he first grasped the idea of combining the sounds and spelling words. He picked up John's cap and called my attention, saying, "K-a-ep;" then, after considering a moment, he knew there was no letter "ep," so he tried "ip," and then said he did not know what to say. When I told him it was "p," he hit himself and declared he had a worthless head. All the others are trying English, but it goes very slowly. They all circle around Abraham in the evening and ask him for "Cossack" words.

The babies are well and good except when a native leaves a stray flea or other insect life on them or the mosquitoes get into the room. The frosts are killing the mosquitoes off slowly and the geese are flying south, to let us know that Winter is near. Only a few weeks back and we had wintry weather, and now only a few weeks until we have it again. The Sumner has been remarkably dry for Alaska, and we have had heavy frosts every month.

September 3.—Mr. Lind returned from Kolmakoffsky to-day. The wind was fair and the current strong. He made about 200 miles to-day, which is fast boating. Yesterday Ivan started up the river for some birch wood for ax handles and some firewood. He was as happy as can be, for while gone he expects to see his girl. To-day I was chosen as matron for the school, so I will have my hands full this Winter. John has made a very nice table for the school, and is now making the benches. We are looking for the mail every day now, and possibly will have to look for some time yet. It is just 8 o'clock, and we have had our evening prayers as usual, never forgetting to ask a blessing on the dear ones we have left at home. Katie's hair is so long and thick that I am placing a net over it now. She looks cute in it.

September 8.—At last the long-looked-for time of commencing a school at this place has arrived, and to-day a school was formally opened, with Bro. Weinland as the teacher. Nine scholars were present, and Mr. Lind and all the work-hands attended the opening exercises. As I am matron of this school, my duties commence at once. I have the sewing on hand now, which means to make and mark for each boy two towels, two handkerchiefs, two shirts, two pairs of pants and a pair of mittens.

They look quite neat and like white boys when they have their long, matted hair cut, and are dressed in white drilling shirts, blue denim pants and blue suspenders. They are proud of it, too. The men are hewing logs for our house now. Nicola's wife is making a double blanket of muskrat skins for Winter traveling.

September 11.—John hung the school-bell to-day and rang it for the first time. It is on a post eighteen feet high in front of the school-house. This afternoon a small mail of five letters arrived by way of St. Michael's. They were all written to come by the Spring mail, but were mailed too late. To-morrow Tutock leaves us to go to his family. He has been a faithful workman, and promises to come back in the Spring.

September 12.—We held our service in the new building to-day. It seemed so much like home to ring the bell, fix up and go to church. We are slowly getting things in better order, and there is no end to the necessary work on hand, Winter is so near.

September 13.—All day, as many other days, I have been hard at work to do what needed to be done. First thing in the early morning get up, dress, care for baby, start breakfast, go to the sleeping department of the school building and see to it that each boy washes well and gets combed.

While there, one says, "Are my ears clean?" another, "Are mine?" while little, fat seven-year-old Alexis comes with, "Hurry, hurry, there is a flea on my neck and I can't find it. Oh, hurry and look for it. *Here, there, no, there.*" Fleas are plentiful in Alaska. The oldest of the boys assures me that I need not stay for him, as *he always* washes his ears and neck, so I go back to my breakfast preparing. If I did not look after them, I believe they would attempt to wash in a half-pint of water each, and in consequence the towels would suffer. While the others eat breakfast, I again care for baby. Then I eat my meal, clean the bed-room and dining-room, work the bread, wash dishes, prepare for dinner, care for baby, wash out some clothes, get dinner, iron, cut, fit and make a pair of pants for Mr. Lind's little boy, make a much-needed shirt for a boy, make dish towels for the school with baby on my arm, teach my class of little girls to sew for one hour, and then get supper. Here comes Alexis again, half wild with the bites of another flea, and I must stop and look for it, too. Johnny takes an accidental seat on the edge of the river and says, "What shall I do?" I back him to the cook-stove, pick up my crying baby and run into my own room and try to collect my senses and a little strength, so that I can get up the supper on time. After supper dishes are washed, baby asleep, and the hour of rest has come. Something else comes. A native comes in with a pleased look and says he has killed two nice geese for me to clean, and so I begin at once. Baby wakes; I put her to sleep, finish with the geese, and look to find it 10 o'clock at night, and as all but my busy husband are in bed, I sit down for a short rest and talk, resting my trembling body and fighting mosquitoes once more, and then go to bed for the night. Morning finds me rested, though

somewhat stiff, and another day begins. This, you may say, is unusual. It is not *every* day quite so hard, but *more* times than not. My only day of rest is the blessed Sabbath. Every one must work in this place, and work hard, too. Strong and well as I am, I feel tired most of my time, and I never was so thin since I am grown.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Extracts from the Journal of Mrs. J. H. Kilbuck,
Bethel, Alaska.

FEbruary 1, 1888.]

To My Dear Father, Joseph Romig, of Independence, Kansas:

September 15, 1886.—The builders are getting tired and trifling, so we paid them off to-day, and they will leave as soon as a nice day comes, and this means we can not have our own house this year. All the men promise to come back and work again in the Spring. About half the logs are now dressed for the other house, and some logs are here to be dressed.

September 20.—As this is my off-week at cooking, I expect to do quite a lot of sewing. I washed to-day and cleaned two of the rooms, and after dinner had my class of little girls, who are piecing quilt blocks for me and learning to sew very nicely. They are very quick with the needle. Bessie is fretful with her teeth, but is well otherwise. Another scholar has been added to our school this week—a boy, Augustus, about twelve years old. He is an orphan from Neposkiogamute and needs a home. He does not seem to be the brightest of boys, but he may leave a different impression as time passes. The workmen left to-day. The old lady said it was hard to leave the children. They all kissed each of them when they left. We gave the old lady a pink calico dress for what she had done for the children, and she thought it more than paid her well. I am sure we will miss her very often.

John has been finishing the school-house entry to-day. The days are getting much shorter, and that tells in our work.

A Neposkiogamute boy had our gun and brought us in nine fat young geese. We still have some potatoes, and the sour-kraut is splendid. We are now enjoying stews, roasts and soups daily. The fish traps are still doing well.

September 24.—The school-children are learning to sing several tunes. They like music and are doing very well. Although Ivan has been gone over a month, we heard he was on his way home, and we are glad, for we feared he had appropriated the things he had along, and had set up housekeeping for himself. This would be very like a native.

Since Abraham is going to school he does very little work in the house, but is very willing when asked. I have worked very steadily and have the boys about clothed. They look very neat in white drilling shirts, blue pants and blue suspenders. They are a jolly set of boyish boys. It seems more like home since they are with us. John made bedsteads for them. They have straw mattresses and

120
blankets on their beds, and think they are extra nice. Bessie is better and Kate is well. Bessie said "Auntie" for the first time to-day, and said the native word, "Twoy, twoy," which means "Enough, enough." Last night we had a hard freeze. Bro. Weinland is putting in the double windows and cleaning out the stove.

September 25.—First snow of the season, and quite a heavy one, too.

September 26.—Still snowing and cold. To-day we held the Sunday-school in the chapel. Now indeed, our real and true work begins, and slow and trying as it will be at times, I hope and pray for courage and faith to persevere and wait for the results of our labors.

September 28.—After waiting and looking for so long a time, the mail has come, bringing news from all the homes, and good news, too. Our mail got down just in time to take the vessel for San Francisco. Ivan came also to-day. Katie has been very good all week, and has such a sweet, intelligent look in her eyes.

October 9.—To-day we put Katie in short clothes. She is strong for her age and looks so dumpy in her little, short dresses. I have nice kid shoes for her, bought while in San Francisco. Yesterday cut her hair short, as it always stayed wet so long after I washed her and was apt to give her cold. Yesterday also the river was frozen over for the first time this year. Real Winter seems to have set in earlier than last year.

October 10.—Another long week has passed with all its busy hours and all its numerous duties. have been very busy and am tired to-night.

October 14.—Weather cool and rainy; work going on as usual. We are having plenty of game already. Yesterday we had duck; this morning rabbit; for dinner, the meat of a black bear cub and for supper, venison steak. All well and the children growing finely.

October 17.—Last night we had a fearful storm. The house was shaken for the first time, and bad too. The rafters creaked and creaked; the wind blew a perfect hurricane. The roof all blew off the woodshed, splintering the boards and blowing them to the northeast for 150 yards. To our astonishment, we found the river higher than we had ever seen it, from back water blown in from the sea, and boiling and foaming with the still heavy wind. The first island was hidden by water, fish traps were broken to splinters and strewn along the shore. Our three rafts lying on the beach were gone. The scow, that had been raised on logs for the Winter, was afloat and madly beating against the steep bank at the mercy of the waves, that threw the spray in the air for at least twenty feet. The bank near Mr. Lind's house washed out for about six feet, endangering him for the Spring freshet. Our canoe is gone. Mr. Lind lost two. This is all the damage we can see yet, but nearer the mouth of the river it must have been much worse, if only no lives were lost.

October 24.—A day of ice and snow. Two services in the chapel. All attended. All well.

November 2.—John started over the tundra with Mr. Lind to the Big Lake to buy fish. They had

three sleds, and were a gay party as they dashed over the tundra, one sled after another.

November 5.—We are looking for John to-day, but it is rather windy—37.2 miles per hour.

November 6.—To-day about 2 o'clock the fish party arrived, tired and hungry. I soon set them up a hot dinner and thawed them enough to talk a little. They bought four new dogs for us while gone. John has written a very interesting journal of the trip. As usual, I am very busy. All well.

November 7.—We had services in the sitting-room to-day, as the weather was too bad to take the children out. After service commenced, the house began to tremble and shake, and the woodshed roof lost one plank after another. We knew it must be blowing hard, and found afterwards that the average was 51.2 miles per hour, while at the time of observation it was blowing only 24.6 miles per hour. The strength must have been much higher than 51.2.

In a last year's August paper we read of a tornado in California lasting an hour and twenty minutes, with a wind of 37 miles per hour. If 37 miles is a tornado, we have them quite frequently up here. The average for the last six hours was 32.1 miles.

November 15.—We have been having very windy weather all week. To-day it is blowing 37.2 miles per hour. The snow is driving in clouds and banking in places. Ivan and Mr. Lind's men start over the tundra for fish. How they can travel in such weather I don't know. Bessie is worrying with her teeth. Katie is four months old to-day, and weighs fourteen pounds.

November 17.—Mr. Lind is here this afternoon, and has heard from natives that the high water of October 17 did much damage at the mouth of the river. The water has not been so high for a score or more of years. The whole of Aguliogamute has been washed away, and other Summer villages near. Mr. Lind will send a man down to see what the damage really was. He fears the warehouse is gone, with the goods we had in it and our lumber, too. The loss of property and possibly of life must be great. His under-traders had about \$600 worth of goods, which he also fears has been lost. This seems to be an exceptional year for winds and storms, although we may be wrong in supposing so.

November 20.—Through several natives we have again heard of the flood. The water came rolling in from the sea all at once, and flooded all the country around the river's mouth. Village after village was swept away, the people escaping in boats. It ran as far back as the mountain villages. Old men say they never saw the like. They say the warehouse was carried back over the tundra some distance, but how far we don't know. More than this, it was not damaged. It seems strange that so much could happen in twelve hours' time.

November 24.—Snowing for the last three days. It makes it very gloomy to have the little light of our short days so dark. To-morrow is Thanksgiving Day, and my baking is done, although since the cranberry crop has been such a complete failure we have very few pies, and the venison also is lacking this year. Very few natives have been around lately.

November 28.—We spent a very pleasant Thanksgiving Day. In the morning the team was hitched up and we paid Mr. Lind a short visit; also invited him to spend the afternoon and evening with us. We had dinner at 4 P.M., and in the evening we enjoyed a number of the *Bethel Excelsior Journal*, edited by W. H. Weinland, which was a complete success. The boys had an extra meal as well as we, and instead of eating it in the school-house were allowed to eat it in our kitchen. They also enjoyed the evening, and wonder what it all means.

Mr. Lind gave us a handsome sleigh as a present. He made and finished it himself. It is painted red and streaked with black, and would never cost less than \$25 in any market, even here. Its runners are steel-faced. It is still snowing and blowing, but it is only 6 degrees below zero now yet.

November 30.—John starts over the tundra with Mr. Lind for another load of fish. When he saw Mr. Lind start a full half mile away, he hurried to harness the dogs, ran in to say good-by, and was off in three minutes' time. When the last dog is being harnessed it is well to have hold of the sled, for they are off at once. I said good-by in the room. He rushed out, and when I got to the door I saw him holding on to the back of the sleigh and tearing down over a steep bank like wild. This is common experience with a dog team. It may seem strange to you to think of some one running ahead of a team to lead it, and the only other person to run along behind, holding on to the sleigh, but not always does any one ride.

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THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., FEBRUARY 8, 1888.

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THE ALASKA MISSION.

Extracts from the Journal of Mrs. J. H. Kilbuck,
Bethel, Alaska.

[CONTINUED.]

To My Dear Father, Joseph Romig, of Independence, Kansas:

December 3, 1886.—About 1 o'clock to-day John and Mr. Lind returned with heavily-loaded sleds. The weather has been very moderate and they made good time. The wind blew pretty strong one day, and as the ice was very smooth their sleighs were each turned over three times. John's foot got fast once, and he was dragged some distance. His ankle was sprained, but not hurt badly. We

hear from the natives that the wolves are around, which is something unusual. They are probably driven from the mountains by hunger, as food of all kinds is very scarce. They may be after our dogs. Mr. Lind tells how, when on a trading trip once, the wolves and dogs fought on top of the kashima where he was sleeping, and during the night he lost two dogs. They are the large gray wolves, and it worries me to have them so close.

December 4.—The weather still quite mild. The wolves came up to Mr. Lind's very door last night and were in our yard also. Natives coming and going all day. Many of them are after medicine. So many are brought that we can do nothing for.

December 5.—The wolves were around again last night. The dogs are very timid and stay close to the house, yelping and fretting constantly. We keep a loaded rifle in the room all the time, in case they do attack the dogs.

December 7.—No wolves last night. Thermometer down to 25 degrees below zero, quiet and clear. Natives plentiful. An old woman is staying here with her boy, and we are caring for a very large boil under his left arm. It is very swollen and painful. The little folks are well as usual. Katie is getting so much stronger in her back and limbs. To-day Mr. Lind was with us for dinner. We had a roasted bear haunch, and enjoyed it exceedingly.

December 11.—The week ends with a busy, bustling day. In the house is work with no end and two romping babies, and out of doors are natives by the dozens and ten dog teams, seven all at once. These are natives from up the river on their way to the Big Lake for food. As I have stated before, food is very scarce this year. If they must already look for food, what will come with early Spring? But, as Mr. Lind says, the Lord will provide for them in some way.

Our little patient's boil is very bad. His mother is with him night and day, caring for him very tenderly. Three other cases here to-day for treatment. Every day has some. Some we can cure, some we can only relieve, and others we can not benefit in any way. They have great faith in everything we do, and this is one advantage. Some most pitiful cases apply, for whom we can do never a thing. Some are ulcers of long standing, in fact *many* of them are. Many are children—crippled children—mostly curvature of the spine or other spinal trouble. Others come for treatment who are only suffering from results of their careless and immoral way of living. We see some of the most loathsome sights at times that you can well imagine—sores that look like some of the extreme illustrations given in surgical books, and then so crusted with dirt that no part of the skin is visible and the wound angry-looking and full of moving insect life. To first cleanse and then care for such a thing is no pleasant task, I can assure you. But it is pleasing to see how grateful they seem for the care you give them. We are sorely puzzled at times to know what to do. We can only do all we know and add to this our hopes and prayers for the poor sufferers.

December 12.—Lamuck, Johnnie's father, is visiting us to-day. He made me a present of a nice, large, new wooden bowl, because I made clothing for his boy. He was much pleased with everything he saw, and promised to send some food to us for his boy.

Katie's teeth seem to trouble her already; Besie is quite sick, off and on; the rest are all well.

December 16.—Mr. Lind starts for Kolmakkofsky to-day, and will bring our "parkas" home

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with him. (I suppose you do not know that *parka* means *fur coat*). I also will get a pair of deer-skin boots. I sent a fruit-cake for Mr. Sipary's Christmas dinner. Mr. Lind hates to be gone at Christmas, but was obliged to.

December 19.—Early this morning Curleyhead came over from the post talking at a great rate. We soon learned that a baby boy had been born at Mr. Lind's. After breakfast I went up, and found all well.

December 25.—All week I have been busy getting my Christmas presents ready and doing some baking and the work. I have not been very well. I feel as if I had ague when it first begins. Last night I was ready, and we put up our tree in the sitting-room, and towards evening we decorated it with paper ornaments and a few candles and the

presents. You should have seen the boys' eyes when they were first let into the room. They were all fresh and clean, and sat in a row opposite to the tree. During service they stood and recited verses from the Bible, answered some questions, and sang the chorus to one song, all concerning the birth of Christ. Then the presents were distributed. To each wonder-struck boy a fancy sack of Christmas cakes, a nice card and a bright yarn scarf was given. From us to Bro. Weinland an upholstered easy chair and a tobacco sack; to Sister Weinland a wash-stand and a pin-cushion. They gave John a pair of socks and a nice card, and to me a pair of slippers, a portfolio and card. I gave John a pair of house slippers and a fancy stand filled with paper lighters. Bessie and Kate each got a nice picture-book. John made me a sewing-table, with a deep drawer under it. You can hardly know the joy we felt at being able to have some of our people enjoy with us the blessed Christmas-tide. This morning I put a roast of bear meat in the oven, sent up to the "Post" for a team, as ours is gone, and took some cakes to Mr. Lind and children and some to the natives there. I found them all well and glad for a little notice. The weather is very mild, only 11 degrees below. We have an abundance of snow.

December 31.—John is down at Nekoskiogamute attending a ball, or eck-ru-shi-ca. Mr. Lind is with him. It is almost 12 o'clock and they are not back yet. He promised to be home before this. *Happy New Year!* It is just 12 o'clock.

January 1, 1887.—First half-hour. John is just back. It was so warm the dogs could only travel slowly, and this made him late.

January 3.—Bro. Weinland attended the eckrushica to-day, and says the crowd is immense. He counted over 200 men in the kashima, a room of about 25 by 15 feet. The mud or sod dwellings were jammed with women and children. All he counted amounted to 706 persons, and the school-boys say he did not see them all. Their games will last for about two weeks, and they will stand any misery of cold and hunger to attend. The principal object seems to be to create a good feeling by giving presents, to make a famous name, and to remember their dead. We do not fully understand it yet.

January 7.—Ivan returned from his long stay at the eckrushica and found his place filled by a spryer young fellow from Ockiogamute. He hardly knew how to understand it, and was not very anxious to leave, but we could easily spare him, he was so slow at his work. The new man is willing and quick, and will soon learn to take his place. The eckrushica is over, and nearly a thousand people have dispersed and gone to their homes. Many colds were taken from exposure, and how little children live to be dragged around this is more than I know.

January 9.—The weather is very mild just now—36 degrees above zero and raining. The house is full of sleepy, dirty natives from the eckrushica. Each one has some present. John and Bro. Weinland each received a sea-lion skin. These are used for boot-soles.

January 16.—Two days ago the weather turned cold. It is now from 35 to 41 degrees below zero, with a high wind. The house is damp and cold. All Winter it has been very damp and cold in the house. We have aches and pains, and well we may, for nothing in the house is quite dry. My leather satchel, hanging against a partition wall, was moulded green. The floor is always damp, and next to the wall, for one foot all around, the carpet is rotten from wet and mould. Through the felting and wall-paper you can see knobs of frost where the nail-heads come. On the coldest mornings the wall has a sheet of frost on it. Where the floor is double the nail-head spots are on the carpet. I hung our clothing on the wall to keep it from the mice, and found it a wet, frozen cake of mould. All our good clothes are more or less spoiled. The under side of the bed mattresses are damp and mouldy; the garret ceiling is covered with frost half an inch thick. It is only with the greatest care we have dry clothing to wear. We try to be very careful, and we have kept pretty well, too.

January 19.—The weather is growing warmer; to-day it is only 25 degrees below zero. We found this morning that Albert had run away in the night, taking all his clothes. What the reason was we don't know. He seemed to be well contented all along. John may look him up in a few days. Bessie is, and has been, very poorly for some time. Lately she seems to be losing the use of her limbs and arms; her head is drawn to one side, and she is fretful and weak.

January 20.—All day hauling wood from the island with the dog team. Mr. Lind spent the evening with us, and to-morrow will start out for the Greek Mission on the Yukon for some dry-goods. He will see if our carpenter is coming back in the Spring and try to buy some good "parkas" for the Nushagak missionaries. John intended going along, but on account of the health of Bro. Weinland's family was obliged to stay. Weather still cold, with brisk winds.

January 21.—Busy all day at the housework. Bessie is very fretful and helpless. I fear she will never gain full use of her limbs again. Carrie is very helpless now, and Bro. Weinland's lungs give him constant and severe trouble. I am well, but

worn with work and care. John is ever at my side to help me all he can.

January 23.—Forty degrees below again. Bessie about the same; Katie full of play and fun. We were just wishing you could see the dear little romp. I was reading of sunny Italy to day, and it seemed so much like a natural picture of a sunny land I got homesick and had to quit reading for awhile, or I surely would have cried. Here it is so dreary and cheerless much of the time. In Winter the sun creeps along the horizon for a few hours in the day, and then all is dark for hours and hours. The little light that does creep in through the windows is dimmed by from half to three-quarters of an inch of frost. The ice is over four feet deep on the river, and then the snow on top of that. It is next to impossible to keep a water-hole open at all.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., FEBRUARY 15, 1888.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Extracts from the Journal of Mrs. J. H. Kilbuck, Bethel, Alaska.

[CONTINUED.]

To My Dear Father, Joseph Romig, of Independence, Kansas:

January 30, 1887.—Weather very cold; the last few days it has been 37, 41, 46, 48, 40 degrees below zero. Part of the time the wind averaged 23 miles per hour, and it was almost impossible to keep the sitting-room warm. Mr. Lind returned from the Mission yesterday. Our workman is not coming back, but has hired himself to some one else. He can thus be near his home. Mr. Lind bought one \$12-woman's "parka." It is of Siberian reindeer skin, trimmed with wolverine skin, and is a very pretty garment. It fits Carrie, so it is hers. I will get a mink skin parka next Winter. Those Mr. Sipary had made were too small and not very nice, so we got others.

We also received a letter from the poor discouraged Episcopalian missionary at St. Michael's. He came up last year with his wife, children and companion for his wife. It seems everything went wrong. He even more than we has to fear the influence of the Greek priest. He was alone and this Winter the lady that came with them sickened and died. He wished to teach school, but no children would come. He is discouraged and will give up entirely and go home this Spring. He says, with sorrow he must admit from the first their Mission has been a failure. Two days after the death of this lady they were startled by the arrival of the murdered body of a Catholic bishop, accompanied by the murderer, the priest's former companion and a Jesuit, who coolly justifies himself. Whether it was his religious belief that led him to this we do not know, but he heartlessly murdered an innocent and helpless old man. Thus

discouragements and trouble have been theirs, yet we all wish they would not give up so soon. If it had been possible one of the brethren would have visited him.

Mr. Lind and ten natives attended services to-day.

February 4.—30 degrees above zero; John teaching school; Bessie no better; Katie has two little teeth, the rest all well and busy.

February 9.—Katie fretful and feverish, Bessie rather worse. Brother Weinland has much trouble with his lungs, and is much concerned about his own health. After talking the matter over we advised him to go down in the Spring, and leave the work here with us for one year. He was glad we spoke, and though hating to leave he will be forced to it soon. Some one may come up next Spring, but we can't tell.

I must tell you of some cleanly inclined natives who visited us a short time ago. When told not to spit tobacco juice on the floor, they did not leave the room or put their quid behind their ears as they sometimes do, but each one disposed of his spittle in some way. One swallowed it and soon went out sick, another spit on his boot, and a third spit in his hand and rubbed it in his long, clotted hair. It almost makes me sick to see some such and worse things they do.

February 17.—On the 11th a little girl was born in health and safety to Brother and Sister Weinland. All are doing well. With them, the work, my teething, fretful baby and poor crippled little Bessie, I have more than my hands full. I have not had a comfortable meal in two weeks. This is all the time I can spare to write now.

February 18.—30 degrees below zero, and wind averages 35 miles per hour for 24 hours. All pretty well but Bessie. This morning a poor man was brought here by his son to be treated for the itch. Almost naked, trembling, old and very poor, I saw him climb out of the sleigh as a little tottering child would and slowly creep to the door. I met him there and helped him up the slippery steps and into the house, brushed the snow from the only garment he wore, and seated him on the floor near the stove. After doing for him all we knew he again went to his smoky, damp, mud hut, a happier old man.

March 5.—To-day the long, undecided question whether Brother Weinland should remain or go home was talked over, and they are going down in the Spring.

John hauled wood from the pinery. Once the dogs ran home before he had loaded the sled. They scattered snow-shoes and mittens, and the ax all along the road. The snow is waist deep in the timber and without snow-shoes he could not go there. Wood is very scarce unless you go a long distance for it. It keeps John very busy since our Fall supply has run out to keep ahead at all. What little time I have, I spend in writing letters, but even then the home-folks will not get full letters. It is hard to write with from one to three babies fussing, and then stop every few words to do something or care for a child. Bessie is no better. All the rest are well.

March 12.—This morning we found out that Abraham has been playing the bully among the school-boys to such an extent that they plan running away. One boy did run away on that account. He has been punished severely for rudeness, but most of his worst roughness was carried on at night. He would pull their hair, strike them and then choke them so that they did not scream, and worst of all he made them say when asked that it was all in fun. He scared them into lying him clear every time. This was no good to our school, so the same day he was expelled. He has been with us more than a year, was furthest advanced of all the boys, but it is best, I think, that he is gone.

In the afternoon John and I went up to Mr. Lind's. The dogs were hungry and anxious to get home, so when we started they made a quick turn throwing John from his hold at the back of the sled and sending me out on top of Katie in the snow. We were not hurt in the least, so it was all right. It took six persons to stop the team until I could get in again and then they came home at a flying rate. John says he never ran a half mile so quick in all his life. He was steering the sleigh from behind.

March 14.—To-day ends two years of happy married life for my husband and me. John was in the timber all day chopping wood, while I was looking after the house-work. About supper time a fire alarm was sounded and we all rushed to see what and where it was. I was out first and saw smoke coming out all over the school-house roof. We soon saw that the stove was red-hot and the ceiling was burning, while in the garret the straw and moss laid above to keep out the cold was also on fire. Some of the boys carried water and some took things out of the school-house. Poor, timid, little Johnnie had built the fire and was so badly scared, not knowing what might happen to him that he ran to the Post, gave the alarm and then ran on to the next village where he staid all night. Soon five or six men came running and helped to carry water, while one daring young man went into the garret and with quick work put out the fire. For the first time in all the month we had no wind. The fire was bad, but as the ceiling is made of half-logs, none of them were burned through. Had it been windy nothing could have saved the school-house and possibly the house would have gone too.

March 15.—We sent to the village to tell Johnnie not to be afraid but to come back, but the poor child had left early in the morning for his father's home, he did not even take his cap or mittens. We all pity him. He is a nervous child and it may make him sick.

March 16.—Alexi-man went after more dog-food and will quiet Johnnie's mind and if possible bring him home.

March 18.—Alexie returned to-day and brought Johnnie with him. The child was timid at first, but was glad to be at home again.

His father has a very bad boil and wants to come after him and be cared for. Bessie is very fretful, Brother Weinland weak and spitting

blood, Carrie has running erysipelas on her neck, but it is much better. The rest are well.

March 20.—To-day Alexie brought Johnnie's father here and we are caring for his boil.

March 21.—The sun rose this morning at five minutes before six, and set seven minutes after six. I thought the day would be just twelve hours long. Lamuck's boil is better to-day; he is making a salmon net for us. A fox ran right into our yard this evening and Alexie shot it. 22 degrees above zero at noon.

March 23.—Lamuck's boil is much better and he is making our salmon net. On Tuesday morning news came that some deer were quite close; so John, Alexi-man and Mr. Lind's brother started out after them. To dress them as near the color of the snow as possible I had to give each of them one of John's long, white, night-gowns to put over their dark clothing and flour sacks for over their heads. They left about 11.20 A.M., and returned about 8 P.M. with one nice tender deer. They were a picture with the long, white robes on; but they were so near the color of the snow that the deer did not see them until they were very close. They saw sixteen deer, wounded two and killed one. When the dogs saw the herd they started off, sled and all, and ran about four miles before they were caught. They found them lying down and asleep on a lake, and too tired to come home very fast.

To-day Mr. Lind arrived from Kolmakoffsky. Mr. Sipary has twenty logs for us now.

March 28.—John and Alexie are now well on the way to Kolmakoffsky. They started this afternoon and will be gone about eight or ten days. He had intended to stay until the freshet and bring down a raft of logs, but on account of Brother Weinland's health and Bessie's lie has given it up and will try to arrange with Mr Sipary for all the logs we will need.

The Greek priest was coming here this year, but as often as he attempts to come just so often something hinders, so this year he will not be here either. Mr. Sipary has been sawing lumber all Winter to sell to him and make a "Speck" as he says. He was intending to charge a dollar for every plank, but now I suppose he will sell them to us. He will not charge us like that either for he always has been very fair with us even if he is a hard man. His way of explaining it is that "we have sense and they havn't."

April 1.—John has been gone some days now and everything goes like it too. Bessie is worse and Brother Weinland is very poorly. He tries to have things glide along as they do for John, and before he gets started he is so tired he can hardly stagger around. He spits blood and begins to look thin. Katie has a light cold and is

feverish. I was up with her last night. I think she is better this morning. We are having cold, windy weather, 25, 35 and 50 degrees below zero. April comes in like a lion this time. The house is all up side down. Brother Weinland is doing their packing by degrees.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Extracts from the Journal of Mrs. J. H. Kilbuck,
Bethel, Alaska.

[CONTINUED.]

22. 1887

To My Dear Father, Joseph Romig, of Independence, Kansas:

April 3, 1887.—We have been having quite a trying time the last few days, Katie has been sick with her cold and her teeth. Nothing seems to help her much. I bathed her as often as I could,

and gave her nitre to keep the fever down. This morning she seems better, but is still feverish. We all miss John so much when anything is wrong; he is the back-bone of the company sick or well, because nothing is more than his iron constitution can stand. Bessie is very poorly, needing constant care day and night. The rest of us are all well. It has been too cold to thaw for some time, but this morning the prospects are for warmer weather.

April 4.—Katie has been pretty sick, poor child, but is now much better. Without John to help me care for her it almost wore me out. Bessie was almost raw with sores, but they are healing now. This morning, to my great surprise John came home. He says the roads were in extra fine condition thus enabling him to make good time. We were all so glad to see him home. He was well, but tanned almost black, as nothing tans like the sun shining on the snow. He made arrangements with Mr. Sipary for logs, enjoyed his visit, and was glad to get home again.

While he was at Mr. Sipray's his man killed four elks. He gave John the haunch of a young one which weighed 70 lbs. The large ones are like big oxen on long legs.

April 7.—All day Bessie seemed to sink, and we thought her dying twice. Towards evening she rallied, and since then has been quite bright. It may have been the turning point in her sickness. Katie is about well. Bro. Weinland is poorly, John's eyes are somewhat sore. I and all the others are well. Thermometer stands—20°.

April 11.—Weather warm, 36° above zero, and thawing very fast, Bessie seems to have passed the crisis of her sickness, and since 11 o'clock last Thursday she seems to be gaining very perceptibly. She still is a very sick child, but it does seem that possibly she might get well again. One good sign is her being natural and peevish. Katie is quite well and like herself again. Yesterday we had our Easter services, but were unable to go to the graveyard on account of the soft weather and the little folks. Mr. Lind attended all our services, and the people at the "post," according to their Russian teaching, were feasting and firing off guns all day. Mr. Lind's family came over to shake hands all around, as we would go anywhere to wish others a merry Christmas. When we would not allow the boys to fire the guns they asked to ring the bell, and it was rung by each one several times during the day. On the Fourth of July they may fire the guns.

April 15.—The snow has been disappearing rapidly and water is beginning to run in the river. We look for the geese, but they have not yet come. Bessie has been getting better until to-day she seems worse again. Her spine and neck have never been much better. Her head is still drawn backwards. The rest of us are all well.

Alexi-man has been wanting a wife, but we put him off until Spring, for we had no warm place for them to live in Winter. Although he is quite young he has had five wives already, but that is nothing for the Eskimos. They all change whenever it suits them. One young woman said she would leave her husband, and be his wife if we would let her. He wanted her badly, but we would not allow anything of the kind. He always wanted John to go with him and help him hunt a wife, and he has suggested three or four already. Last week we sent him out deer hunting, but he came home and said there were no deer around, but that at the village on Big Lake he had found a young woman he wanted badly. He praised her and begged John to go along, and help him persuade her to come. We told him to clean a place in the garret for them and then go after her. Yesterday he left for the lake and to-day came home a disappointed lover. The girl would like to come, but her father said "No, Alexie." Alexie declares she would be nice if she were washed and combed, and thinks if John had been with him she would have come. Now he wants John to go back with him to-morrow and they will be sure to get her. We need a woman about the place to sew for the boys; that is, to mend their boots and fur clothes, to pick geese and to cut up fish.

April 18.—Saturday was my birthday, but as no one except John knew it not much was made of it. It seemed very strange not to have the usual fuss made of the day as we used to at home. John is making me a small sewing table for a present and regrets that he can not do more.

Bessie is improving very slowly and is very cross. They are nearly through with their packing and about ready to start. The weather has been cold again with a persistent west and northwest wind, and but very little thawing has gone on for four or five days. We hear that the geese are on the coast, but we do not look for them so long as it stays cold. This morning Alexi-man took another man with him to the "lake" to talk for him and try again for a wife. This evening he came and brought a bashful young woman, saying, if it had not been for the other man, he never could have gotten her father's consent. Alexi is as happy as can be. I will make her a change of clothing and get her cleaned up so soon as I can. She is young, not more than twenty-five years and I hope she can learn to help about the work.

April 22.—To-day it is warmer and is thawing. Geese have been seen by some natives and John is loading shells and cleaning the guns. I fixed up the new wife to-day, and she looks like a different person. She is learning slowly to care for Katie and to wash dishes, but like all the women she is very slow.

April 25.—Yesterday it snowed all day, but to-day it has been thawing some and the long looked-for geese have arrived. Mr. Lind got two to-day and brought us one. This evening we got one. To-morrow we will enjoy goose roast for dinner. I hope warm weather will continue now. Everything is white with snow, although it has been thawing everywhere. The ice will hardly move before the middle of May.

April 26.—This morning a native came over the tundra and said that he had seen deer tracks made that same day and quite near too.

John and Alexi-man donned long white night-gowns again with flour sacks tied over their heads, took the rifles and started off—two objects hardly to be distinguished at a short distance for the whiteness of their attire. In the evening John came home for the team and sled saying he would be back in half or three-quarters of an hour. He was going for a deer close by that Alexi-man was skinning while he came home. They were in sight of the house when they killed it, and farther off they had another one dressed and lying on the hide to be brought home in the morning. A third one was wounded, but a wolf was after it, and they will not get that one I guess. They are proud of their success and well may be.

April 28.—John's deer hunt has cost him a severe spell of snow blindness. I never thought anything could be so painful as this seems to be. His eyes are weak at any rate, or they would not be so bad. I have cared for the deer meat and it is of the neatest and tenderest we ever had. Alexi's woman is learning to help me, and is a nice, willing girl. We are all well. Bessie is improving every day although very slowly. Katie is learning to talk and sing. She sings, "By, by, O by, by" for her doll, or if she is going to sleep. She is well.

We have had another cold storm and all is still covered with snow and ice. The Spring bids fair to be as late as last year. Bro. Weinland still teaches school, although not all of the scholars come any more. The people are hard up for food. We have heard of some complete starvation, and many, many will go hungry before food can be caught. So few of them have guns. A *dirty wooly* little boy not more than five years old came here to-day. It was painful to see how eagerly he took a large iron pot in his lap and began to clean out with his fingers what the boys had left from dinner. I gave him a good square meal, which made him look much happier. His name signifies *dirty nose*, and it suits him wonderfully well.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., FEBRUARY 29, 1888.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Extracts from the Journal of Mrs. J. H. Kilbuck,
Bethel, Alaska.

[CONCLUDED.]

To My Dear Father, Joseph Romig, of Independence, Kansas:

May 2, 1887.—John's eyes are well again, but somewhat weak. The weather still is cold and Spring as far off as ever. We are all pretty well just now. The boys are all off with Alexi, shooting geese.

May 8.—All week it has been cold, blowing as usual and snowing hard. No geese are flying and no thawing is going on. We are far behind last year, even if it was a late year. The river is as safe as ever to travel over, and everywhere it looks as wintry as three months ago.

I never sit down to a plentiful meal without thinking of these poor, hungry people. If only the river would clear! for then the smelts come in a few days and also the white whale.

Yes, I must tell you of the death of poor little Cabishop. When Mr. Lind was down the river this Winter he saw him high up in the kashima, sitting on a bench, without any clothing on and as bony as a skeleton. He had to eat only what others chose to give him. He smiled as usual, and said he was coming up here when the Spring came. Mr. Lind gave him ten sea biscuits and a large handful of tea when he left. He wished to shake hands and thank him for it, but was too weak to support his shoulders with the strength of one arm. Several weeks later a native told us he had died. We grew to love him, he was with us so much, but if he had lived longer hunger would surely have claimed him. How often he told us "how he and all the natives loved us, as much as plenty of money," and *how much* money means to them!

Last week a similar case came to us. He is about as bad off, and to save him from the pangs of hunger as well as disease we kept him with us, while his healthier brothers went in search of food. He is quiet and a pleasant boy, but a pitiable object.

Alexi and his wife seem to get along very finely, and both are learning to work.

The school-boys are not in school now, as Bro. Weinland has closed the term for this year. They

are all longing for warm weather, and tease constantly for some new amusement or employment. The younger ones stumble around in the old boots and shoes they can find, keeping them polished with the stove-polish brush. They have large water-blisters on their feet, but prefer these to their own because they think it looks more like the way we dress. Augustus has turned out to be a bright, fine-dispositioned child, and every one loves him.

May 11.—At last warm weather has come. The wind is southeast, and stays there, too. Yesterday Alexi and John went out for geese. John's gun would not work, so he got only one, while Alexi got nine. To-day Alexi and Augustus got seven geese, two ducks and one crane. This afternoon about half-past 3 we saw five deer north of the house. John and Bro. Weinland started after them, but it was late and began to rain, so they came back. The snow is disappearing very fast and the river begins to fill with water. Bessie is still improving, and the rest of us are all well. John weighs 183 pounds.

May 15.—This is John's birthday. He is 26

years old. This evening he is having what seems to be a bilious attack, and feels pretty sick. I don't think it will last long.

Warm weather has come indeed, and although on the 8th of May it was 8 degrees below zero, we are having 40 to 46 degrees above now. The snow is going rapidly and the river is filling with water. The ice may leave this month after all. Birds of all kinds are here, which insures Summer. Even the crane is here; it is bald-headed, and can not stand any cold. Sea gulls are screaming around, and some plants are beginning to grow a little—just to bud.

The boys came in to-day with forty-four geese and two ducks. Women are coming to-morrow to pick them. We intend to dry them, as Mr. Lind does. He got nineteen geese and one swan on Friday. He had three guns out, and we have only one good one just now. Yesterday he lent us one for the season.

A poor old woman is staying here because she has no food, and has her grown son with her, who is a semi-idiot. Poor boy, he looks thin, too. Others also are getting food when necessary. We are all pretty well. Bessie seems at a standstill just now, but she is no worse.

May 18.—Weather warm and rainy; snow almost gone; river filling over the ice with water. I do not think it will be long before the ice will rise to the top; then it will soon go off. Geese are still plentiful; the boys got nine this afternoon in a short while, and close to the house, too. I am saving feathers and down separately, and by the time Winter comes I will have twenty or more pounds to make a light cover for our bed. I will add to it next year if it is too light. I had one for Katie's bed this Winter, and she only needed a blanket and light spread beside to be plenty warm in any weather. Just now John is worrying with the scow. She is frozen fast to the mud where the high water left her last Fall, and will be in danger of the ice if we can not get her off soon. He works at her almost every day. We are all pretty well. Bessie is about the same. Katie, the dear child, is good from morning until night, all by herself, and does not get out of her bed once in a whole night. I do not see how I would do the work if she were more fretful and troublesome; I barely get through now as it is.

May 21.—It is raining some every day, and Summer is here indeed. The scow is loose from the sand, and the water is nearly high enough to take her up the creek again. John will dig her free this afternoon and put her in a safe place. In about eight days we hope to be ready for the trip down the river. I have to write only to Bro. Dewy yet and copy a long letter I have written to the young ladies of Wells College, Ithaca, N. Y., and then my writing is done—thirty-three letters, with an average of thirteen pages each.

May 22.—This was such a beautiful morning. Mr. Lind raised his large American flag, to remind him, he said, that he was an American now and not a Russian. He was here when the country changed hands, and knows from his childhood to dread the Russians. He is a Finn, and fought many a Russian boy at school. The ice is rising

to the top of the water, and will in all likelihood go this week. Fish have been seen, and some pike have been caught.

May 25.—Yesterday the ice began to crack and the river is rising very fast. Mr. Lind has sent us two messes of fresh pike. We have no net yet for them.

As the time draws near for all to go off and leave me here alone, I dread it somewhat. In about a week they will try to start. John is getting the fish-nets ready and bought some birch canoes of Mr. Lind, for the fishing season will soon be here. The scow is in safe quarters, and only needs rigging to be quite ready for the trip.

May 26.—The ice broke up this afternoon and began to move, although most of it is jammed and at a standstill this morning. The day has been warm and bright.

May 29.—The river cleared yesterday, the 28th, on the same date as last year, and we are looking for Mr. Sipary to-night or to-morrow. There was much more of a freshet this year than last. The water came rushing through the pinery, making a loud, rushing noise and filling up the low places in front of our house. The movements of the ice were grand; and now the river is higher than we ever saw it, and the current is very swift. On the islands where the water has about covered them the rabbits sit helplessly on sticks and stumps, waiting for the water to fall. Our boys were out yesterday afternoon and got twelve rabbits for dog food. To-morrow the old woman that is staying here and the boys will go out to scoop smelts. The sick man is very poorly; he has had two bad hemorrhages, and is too weak to get up. I hope he will live through the time that John is gone. If he were to die while I am alone, I do not know what I would do.

June 1.—Mr. Sipary arrived on the evening of the 30th of May, and is well and in lively spirits. The smelts are now running, and a few whitefish also. Yesterday Augustus brought home about a bushel of the freshest smelts; the others are eared for at the camping and fishing-place. The smelts are strung on willow switches and dried.

On Saturday they will all start for Shyniogamute. Mr. Sipary has a bidara that will hold almost as much as our scow, and Mr. Lind and Mr. Dennentoff have somewhat smaller ones. I do not know whether I ever told you who Mr. Dennentoff is. He is a Russian, and was banished when only seventeen years old for killing a man while he was drunk. He seems to be quiet and industrious, and has an Eskimo wife and family. He trades for Mr. Sipary for his living. His station is about 550 miles from the mouth of the river, and it takes him nearly the whole Summer to make the round trip for his goods. I feel sorry for him. He is the only civil one of the whole set that were left in this country, and he was such a boy, too, when he committed the deed.

June 4.—Dear papa, I will seal your letter now, as to-night they expect to sail. All is work and excitement and worry. It is raining, but in three days they must be down. I will try to write to Bro. Dewy in the Fall; I have not time this

Spring. Very much love to all. From John, Katie and Edith.

Postmarked San Francisco, July 19, 11.30 A.M., and again postmarked Independence, Kansas, July 23 (Saturday), 8 P.M., and received by me Monday morning, July 25. A dispatch was seen in **THE MORAVIAN** on Thursday, the 23d, sent by Bro. Weinland to **THE MORAVIAN** from San Francisco on June 18, and thus we were looking for the mail. Last year the mail was received July 15, and again October 20, sent August 1.

JOSEPH ROMIG.

SISTER KILBUCK'S DIARY.—It is with great regret that we have to make announcement of the close of Sister Kilbuck's diary, so far as it has reached us, with this issue.

Without a doubt it has proved of peculiar interest to our readers, and as certainly too it has proved an incentive to prayers and gifts for the Mission on the part of many. Several months must elapse before fresh tidings can be received either from Bethel or from Carmel. Meantime may He "whose they are and whom they serve" prosper the brethren and sisters in the dreary North.

OFFICIAL ITEMS.

REPORTED BY THE PROVINCIAL BOARD.

BETHEL, ALASKA.—It affords us much pleasure to announce that in response to our appeal for an assistant missionary to go to Bethel, Brother Ernst L. Weber, of Gracehill, Iowa, has offered his services. This brother has been duly appointed, and, God willing, will sail from San Francisco in the beginning of May. We earnestly commend him to the prayers of the churches.

THOSE brethren who have not yet sent the statistics of their congregations for the past year are earnestly requested to do so without delay.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., DECEMBER 28, 1887.

OFFICIAL ITEMS.

REPORTED BY THE PROVINCIAL BOARD.

The Rev. Robert de Schweinitz has been appointed to act as President of the Provincial Board, until further notice.

BETHLEHEM, PA.—The funeral of the late Bishop Edmund A. de Schweinitz took place last Wednesday afternoon at two o'clock. It was attended by a large number of resident and non-resident ministers of our own and other denominations, by the scholars of the Young Ladies' Seminary and of the Parochial School, by the students of the Moravian College and Theological Seminary, by the rectors and vestries of the Church of the Nativity and of Trinity Episcopal Church, and by a large congregation of members of the Moravian and other Churches. Brief services were held at the home of the deceased, conducted by Bishop A. A. Reinke, of New York, after which the family and friends went in procession to the Church. The service was opened by the choir singing the hymn "Lass mich Dir entgegen gehen" (Tune 211), after which Bro. J. M. Levering led in the first portion of the liturgical service for the burial of the dead. The English hymn, No. 870, 1-3, was sung by the congregation, and was followed by the lessons read by Bro. Charles B. Shultz, viz: 1 Thess. 4: 13-18, selected with reference to the family of the departed; 2 Timothy 4: 1-8, selected with reference to the ministry of the Church; Rev. 3: 7-13, selected with reference to the Church in general. The congregation then sang the hymn No. 749, verses 1 (in part) and 6, and Bro. J. M. Levering read a brief obituary notice, after which he made a short address on the words "And when He had said this, He fell asleep" (Acts 7: 60).

The ministers in attendance, the students of the Theological Seminary, the scholars of the Young Ladies' Seminary and of the Parochial School, and the members of the congregation were severally exhorted to treasure up the last admonition of the departed on the afternoon of the day he died, viz: to be *faithful* even, if necessary, unto death, to the obligations entrusted to each one. After the closing prayer, the choir sang "Blest are the departed" (Spohr), and the congregation joined in the English hymn No. 902.

The interment was in the Old Moravian burying-ground, where Bro. M. W. Leibert led the exercises. The pall-bearers were the brethren M. E. Kemper, York, Pa.; W. H. Hoch, South Bethlehem; E. S. Wolle, Brooklyn; Charles L. Moench, Philadelphia; George F. Bahnsen, Schenectady; L. P. Clewell, Emmaus. Thus, simply and unostentatiously, was our beloved brother and bishop laid to rest, amidst the tears and mourning of those among whom he had labored so long and so faithfully.

As a token of respect for the departed, the Young Ladies' Seminary omitted the closing entertainment for which preparations had been already made, the examinations at the Theological Seminary appointed for the day of the funeral were dropped; the Parochial School closed for the Christmas vacation at noon of Wednesday instead of the following Friday, the Moravian Bookstores and Publication office were closed from one to four P.M., and the bell of the Trinity Church was tolled during the services.

The two parishes of the Protestant Episcopal Church in South Bethlehem and Bethlehem took formal notice of Bishop de Schweinitz's death, as is attested by the following sets of resolutions:

At a meeting of the Vestry of the Church of the Nativity, South Bethlehem, Pa., held on December 20, 1887, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, In the Providence of God, the Rt. Rev. Edmund Alexander de Schweinitz, S. T. D., the Senior Bishop of the Moravian Church, has been called to his rest; be it

Resolved, That we receive the announcement of his decease with sincere regret, remembering with gratitude and veneration his kindly position and action toward this Parish in its early history, and his continued friendship ever since; that we tender to those who mourn his loss, and especially to his bereaved wife, the deserved tribute of our respectful and hearty Christian sympathy, and offer our prayers that God will administer to them the "comfort of a reasonable, religious and holy hope" in their bereavement.

Resolved, That the Vestry attend his funeral in a body.

Attest: W. L. DUNGLISON, *Secretary*.

A Minute of the Vestry of Trinity Church, December 21, 1887.

The Rector, Wardens and Vestry of Trinity Church, Bethlehem, have heard with astonishment and sorrow of the death of the Rt. Rev. Edmund Alexander de Schweinitz, S. T. D., and Bishop of the *Unitas Fratrum*

They can not forget how large a debt Trinity Church owes to his kindly and Catholic sympathy; that he was present to bid her God-speed at the laying of her corner-stone; that at every stage of her progress, in every increase of her efficiency as a power for God, he has been her watchful and generous friend. She has met a loss which she does well to realize most profoundly.

There is a larger loss than this; the loss to letters; the loss to citizenship; the loss to the ranks of noblest manhood; the loss to the Universal Church wherein he labored so mightily for the upbuilding of the walls of Zion. The world has been prompt to recognize it. And there is a deeper and more sacred loss which we do not presume to penetrate with words of sympathy, beside which we stand silent but in earnest prayer.

By the Rector, Wardens and Vestry of Trinity Church:

Resolved, That a copy of this minute be published in THE MORAVIAN and in the *Bethlehem Daily Times*.

Resolved, That the Rector and representation of the Vestry attend the funeral of Bishop de Schweinitz and that the bell of the church be tolled during the services.

GEO. POMEROY ALLEN, *Rector*.
FRANCIS WEISS,
CHAS. M. DODSON, *Wardens*.

DECEMBER 28, 1887.]

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THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., APRIL 4, 1888.

BROOKLYN.—The holy Passion Week was celebrated with much interest in our congregation. On Palm Sunday morning, seven persons were received into the Church by the rite of confirmation, and on Good Friday another, who had been detained at home by sickness, was received by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. The Services of the week, especially those of Sunday, Thursday and Good Friday have been unusually well attended.

Easter will be celebrated by the usual morning services, a Children's Carol Service and Offering for Alaska in the afternoon, and the Love-Feast on Monday evening, when we hope to have several of our brethren in the ministry with us from Staten Island, New York and Brooklyn.

W.

APRIL 18, 1888.]

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., APRIL 18, 1888.

OFFICIAL ITEMS.

REPORTED BY THE PROVINCIAL BOARD.

On Sunday afternoon, April 15, Bro. Ernst L. Weber, who is about to go as second missionary to Bethel, Alaska, was ordained a Deacon of the Church, at Nazareth, Pa., by Bishop A. A. Reinke.

Bro. Weber will leave Bethlehem on April 17 and sail from San Francisco for Alaska about May 1.

THE Rev J. Hillman has been appointed to take temporary charge of Grace Moravian Church, in Philadelphia.

LETTERS for our Mission Stations at Bethel and Carmel, Alaska, should be mailed "to the care of the Alaska Commercial Company, San Francisco," but not later than April 23 next.

THE ALASKA MISSION.—While it is impossible for corrections to reach every person for whom they are intended, especially as newspapers do not reach the same circles of readers, and while many hastily conclude that therefore it is useless to attempt to correct erroneous statements, it is nevertheless a duty to make the truth known. *Der Brüder Botschafter* learns from a correspondent that *Abendlust*, a German monthly magazine, has made the following statement:

"The Moravian Mission in Alaska is already able to defray a considerable part of the expenses of maintenance by traffic in furs. In 1886 Mr. Lipary [sic] made a clear profit for this object of \$2000" [sic].

Abendlust, or its informant, has simply confused two distinct things, the Moravian Mission and the Alaska Commercial Company, a secular corporation which was in existence long before there was any thought of sending missionaries to that territory. Mr. Sipary (not Lipary) is the agent of the Alaska Commercial Company near our Mission-station, Bethel, on the Kuskokwim. He, as all the officers of the Company and its other employes, have shown continued kindness to our missionaries; but whatever the profits of the fur traffic may have been, they accrued solely to the Alaska Commercial Company. From one point of view, our mis-

sionaries would be fully justified in purchasing furs, etc., from the natives at fair and honest prices, in order to sell them in the home market; but in view of our declaration both to the Government of the United States and to the Alaska Commercial Company that the sole object of our sending missionaries was to preach the Gospel, and that we did not purpose to engage in trading, it would be dishonest if we were to attempt it. The members and friends of our Church and its missionary work may rest assured that, apart from the precarious assistance rendered by the National Government to the schools, the support of the Alaska Mission depends upon free-will offerings, and not upon traffic of any kind.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., MAY 9, 1888.

GRACEHILL, IOWA.—Last Thursday morning Bro. Ernst L. Weber arrived here from Bethlehem, and the following days were spent by him in visiting his parents and relatives, prior to leaving finally for Alaska.

On Sunday morning at eleven o'clock the Gracehill church was completely filled with attentive hearers, the occasion being a union Missionary service, our brethren of the Franklin Congregational Church having united with us in the presentation of this branch of the Master's work, and in bidding farewell to Brother Weber. The Rev. H. A. Risser, pastor of the Congregational Church, spoke earnest, forceful words in presenting our duty towards the work of Christian Missions, while the writer spoke of the motive power impelling missionary work.

One happy and inspiring feature of the service was the singing. The Congregational choir rendered a beautiful missionary chant, while our own band of Willing Workers sang several pieces, and the congregation joined heartily in singing "We're Marching to Zion," "Onward, Christian Soldiers," and "From Greenland's Icy Mountains." Brother Weber spoke a few parting words, asking for our prayers in his own behalf, and also in behalf of our dear brethren and sisters in Alaska, and upon the future of our work amongst the Eskimos. The collection taken at the close of the service manifested a present, substantial interest in this work; and it is our earnest prayer that this same interest may have received a stimulus which will gather strength and power as time progresses.

The same evening, at ten o'clock, Brother Weber left for Kansas City on his way to San Francisco. May the Lord abide with him and bless the outcome of his labors.

W. H. W.

THE AMERICAN PROVINCE.

Card of Thanks.

Before leaving for Alaska, I desire to express my sincere thanks to the friends in Gracehill, Utica, New-York and Bethlehem (especially also to the friends in West Bethlehem), for all the kindness shown me. May the Lord bless them in return for what they have done for me and for the Mission cause.

Bethlehem, April 17, 1888. ERNEST WEBER.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., MAY 23, 1888.

OFFICIAL ITEMS.

REPORTED BY THE PROVINCIAL BOARD.

ALASKA MISSION.—Bro. Ernest Weber sailed for Bethel, Alaska, from San Francisco, Cal., on May 13, 1888, in the steamer *St. Paul*.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., MAY 30, 1888.

OFFICIAL ITEMS FROM THE UNITY'S ELDERS' CONFERENCE.

MISSIONS.

Northern Missions.—On April 2, Bro. Albert Martin, called to Labrador, was ordained a deacon by Bishop Gustav Müller at Kleinwelke; and on April 15, Bro. Ernest Weber, called to Alaska, was ordained a deacon by Bishop Amadeus Reinke at Nazareth, Pa.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., JUNE 13, 1888.

LETTERS FROM ALASKA.—It is exceedingly gratifying that news from our missionaries in Alaska can be communicated a month earlier than last year; and it is a cause for profound thankfulness that at the time of writing their

general health was good. Whilst we wait for the fuller budget of letters, let us do what we can by our prayers to entreat the Lord's interposition for the discomfiting of those who are hampering the missionaries in the gathering of scholars and carrying on of their schools.

We trust that the entire Winter proved as mild as the first half, and that the more complete tidings will tell of fruits gathered into the garner of the Lord.

ALASKA.

CARMEL, NUSHAGAK RIVER, ALASKA. }
February 11, 1888. }

DEAR BROTHER DE SCHWEINITZ:—As a trader from the direction of Kodiak is here and will return thither to-morrow, I will send this letter with him, hoping that he will forward it to Kodiak, whence it will probably reach you earlier than if we wait till the *Dora* comes in the Spring. As it is very uncertain whether the letter would be safely forwarded, we will not send more than this one at present.

We have great cause for thankfulness to the Lord, inasmuch as He has allowed us all to enjoy perfect health and strength, as well as bodily comfort. We have not suffered at all for the want of anything. "Surely the Lord is good, and His mercy endureth forever." The Winter has been less severe than usual, the coldest weather thus far having been in December, when the thermometer dropped to 30 degrees below zero. This cold spell lasted about ten days. We have had a great deal of rain and the changes in the temperature are usually very sudden.

Our school opened on the 17th of January, and during the remainder of that month we enrolled 21 scholars; but since then the Greek priest and his crew have been busy, and made sad havoc amongst our scholars. They compelled some of the most influential parents to remove their children, telling them our school was "ashituk," bad. So we have only nine scholars left, and we see plainly that some strenuous efforts are being made with some of these, to get them away also. We have three boys from a village some 4 or 5 miles from here; we must board these boys, and by way of compensation therefor make them do such work as cutting wood, bringing in fuel, etc. The children all seem greatly pleased and glad to come to school, and it makes our hearts ache to see them taken away. I will write more fully about the school, the difficulties, and the work in general, with the Spring mail.

Although we must meet with these difficulties, we do not feel at all discouraged; it has thus far only been the means of driving us with more earnestness to the throne of grace. And will not our Brethren at home join us in most earnest petitions to the Lord that this cause may prosper in spite of all opposition, if it be His holy will?

If Dr. Jackson could possibly visit us during the Summer, I think it might be productive of much good, for it is utterly impossible to sufficiently portray with pen and ink the miserable condition of these poor people and the rigid servitude forced upon them by the Russian priest and avaricious whites.

We received a letter from Bro. Kilbuck, which was written on the 28th of November. I will enclose his letter. F. E. AND MARY WOLFF.

24

Letter from Bro. Kilbuck.

BETHEL, ALASKA, November 28, 1887.

DEAR BROTHER WOLFF:—In all likelihood Mr. Lind, the trader at this point, will dispatch a native down the river on a trading expedition as far as Mumtrahamute, so I will avail myself of the opportunity of sending a message to you in the hope that it will reach you before so very long. Sister K. and I have written quite long letters to you already, but since there is some uncertainty as to the mail reaching you in the near future *via* Mumtrahamute, we propose to wait and send them by another route over the mountains to Togiak. There is some mail here from the other river which will be sent by the overland route, and as the messenger will be hired for this purpose we think it safer to send our long letters by this messenger, than to trust to a chance-carrier. I am compelled to be brief in my letter this time as I have not much leisure.

In the first place, I wish to thank you for your letters, and for the mails you so kindly dispatched unto us. I believe we received everything you sent, although there might be some uncertainty, as I did not get any idea what amount of mail was dispatched. We were thankful for the canned salmon and I assure you we enjoyed them. The presents entrusted to your care by friends in the east were received in good order.

We were glad to hear that you were fixed so nicely before the Winter set in. I hope you have had no unusual difficulties to meet with. We have not been so favored. In the first place the school was not opened until the second week in September, about a week later than we intended. This delay was owing to the fact that Mrs. K. was recovering from her confinement. Then in October, our little Katie was suddenly taken ill. She was so sick for a week, that we did not expect to see her recover. The sickness commenced with fever, and ended in dysentery. The Lord has, however, graciously spared her to us, and oh! how thankful we are. There was another week's interruption. After Katie was convalescent, I was attacked with dysentery too, although I had quite a siege of it, I managed to keep up the school, with a loss of only two days. After I recovered Sister K. was troubled with the same sickness, but by prompt doctoring she was saved from much distress. The medicine I used for all three, was Wakefield's "Blackberry Balsam." Since then we have all been well, although Katy was a long time in recovering. The baby boy, Wm. Henry, has been well and although only about three months old weighs 16 pounds. He was born August 30, 1887.

Now about the school. I still find some trouble to gather scholars. The Greek priests, the one at Nushagak and the other on the Yukon are continually warning the people against sending the children to school. I have a steady attendance of 11 and in a week or so I expect to have 13 or 14. I have several new scholars, one of whom ran away from his foster parents and came to school. The foster father was here the other day, and said

that the boy could stay. About January I expect quite an increase, as by that time the *eckerushka* excitement will be past. I am going over the same ground as last year, and in addition I have opened an industrial department, for girls and boys.

Just now we are preparing for Christmas. We expect to hold quite a celebration.

I hope you are likewise progressing fairly well in the school, although you no doubt find the priest and his *crew* quite a hindrance. It is a good thing that the increase is in the Lord's hand. We will go on and trust the same arm that has helped us to surmount difficulties in the past.

With God's blessing upon you and yours, and your united labors, and with love from Sister K. and the babies, I remain your affectionate brother in Christ,

JNO. H. KILBUCK.

THE MORAVIAN

JUNE 27, 1888.]

LETTERS FROM ALASKA.

Letters From Sister Mary Huber to Her Family at Lititz.

CARMEL, October 23, 1887.

DEAR PARENTS, BROTHERS AND SISTERS:—Oh, how I wish I could walk home to-day and spend the time with you! but as I can not I will write. The weather is cold. We have had snow, deep enough to go coasting. Bro. Wolff took Roy and Sophie took Marion. Each has a small sled. They stayed quite a long time; all enjoyed themselves very much. The ground is so uneven that the children fell off the sleds several times; Roy stood a piece off afraid to go on again, but Marion did not care; she is very lively and fond of any exciting fun.

Last night we had a little rain and the snow is almost gone. The native children have sleds too, home-made ones. One child, generally the smallest, sits on the sled and the larger ones push.

When the fishermen went home they left some woolen shirts and rubber boots. The boots have long legs, reaching all the way up to their thighs. The natives have small hands and feet nicely shaped. Imagine the little boys with these very large boots on, the tops crumpled down as their legs are not long enough to stretch them out. Bro. Wolff speaks of having one of the little fellow's picture taken when Mr. Clark comes back in Spring. If he can get several I will send one home.

We are having things fixed very conveniently and warm, but we miss the good coal we have at home. Our fuel is a trial of our patience. Every thing needed to make us comfortable and happy has been provided; we do not want any good thing and are happy, contented and satisfied.

The sun sets at 5.20 and at six in the morning it is daylight. Days are getting shorter.

Our neighbor, Lewis Ginther, comes to our Sunday service and takes one meal with us. He seems to enjoy the time spent here and we are happy to have him come. We hope it may prove a blessing to his soul.

How are you all getting along? I am so anxious to hear of your health, mother, and indeed of each one. You are all on my mind so often; I feast on thoughts of home; yet through grace, am not home-sick. It is really a blessing. I could scarcely have to feel so quite at home in such a strange place.

SUNDAY, November 6, 1887.

The day is almost gone. It was a bright clear day, real cold. The first of November was mild, but it has grown as cold as eight above zero. All the canned goods are brought in the store-room, also the potatoes and things likely to freeze. The pump handles must be put up. Both pumps are in the back hall leading to the woodshed.

The carpets are not laid yet, so we have much scrubbing to do. Bro. Wolff has begun to paint the ceilings; mine is pale blue and the sitting-room is a sea green.

Last week Bro. Wolff went out hunting several mornings before breakfast. Once he caught a rabbit weighing ten pounds. It was quite white except small black spots on the ears. The fur is beautiful, long and thick; the meat is very nice. He also shot eight grouse; they are almost white in Winter and not easily seen when snow is on the ground.

There is ice on the river; Sister Wolff and I went to see it last Thursday. We took the path leading to Nushagak; went down the steep bank through a large washout, and walked on the beach. The sun was nearly down, the sky was beautifully tinted, the snow capped mountains opposite, the ice moving on the river—altogether the sight was grand. We all walked along the beach to-day, the children being drawn along on their sleds.

DECEMBER 11, 1887.

The weather is cold, ten degrees above zero. The last few mornings it was eight below zero. There is snow on the ground and it is drifted. The natives are out with their dog-sleds—long low sleds with a railing around each, no paint on, very rude. They have from one to five or more dogs hitched to each sled. A man or boy runs ahead to guide the dogs. Our natives lost nearly all their dogs; they became mad and had to be killed.

I wish the boys could be here in a moment, to stay as long as they wish and could then be home again in a twinkling; you would like to go hunting with Bro. Wolff or with Lewis Ginther, who has more time and goes oftener. The latter says he would like to go farther with his dog team, where game is plentier, but Bro. Wolff is too busy yet. The school-house is not finished inside and he wants every thing done before Christmas. Our house is finished down stairs, pictures for all the rooms. Bro. Wolff made book-shelves for his study and last evening unpacked the books. We were up late as we have been for some time. We

sleep late in the morning. We had a great deal of work until everything was finished, but now all is so comfortable and pretty in the house. Having the cistern and well in the back hall, a drain

in the woodshed to pour our slops, we seldom need go out of doors for anything.

The days are very short now, especially the cloudy ones, the sun rising at nine in the morning and setting at three in the afternoon.

Lewis Ginther gave Bro. Wolff two fox skins, one mink, and one large land otter for rugs. The latter is very fine. Perhaps I may find something of interest to send you in Spring. There were three men from another village here one day having a watch-chain, two butter knives and something else, I don't know what it was, all made of ivory or bone. Bro. Wolff wanted to buy them, so I did not try. The chain is made out of one bone, the links were so perfect, you would not think it possible to be made with such poor instruments.

DECEMBER 16, 1887.

The weather has changed. The day after I wrote the mercury fell to sixteen below zero, then to twenty-four, then to thirty below yesterday. To-day it is thirty-one degrees below zero. We are quite comfortable; our house is very warm. Bro. Wolff keeps fire all night. All such things as ought not freeze we have put in the store-room. This room opens into the kitchen and is kept warm by that fire.

SUNDAY, December 18, 1887.

To-day it was thirty-three degrees above zero at two o'clock this afternoon when the sun was shining. We have such great changes in the weather in so short a time. Last night Bro. Wolff had to go on top of the house and open the chimney; last week he had to do it two different times between seven and eleven o'clock. The intense cold and the heat from the chimney form so much ice, that the smoke could not escape, and consequently came out of the stove so thick that we could not stand it. We did not like to see Bro. Wolff go, it seemed so dangerous, the roof being covered with snow, a high wind, and bitterly cold. He almost froze his nose, he said. To-day being so much warmer the ice melted and ran down the chimney.

FEBRUARY 11, 1888.

We were told that to-day there is a chance to send mail to Kodiak and that a vessel goes from there to San Francisco. So I will quickly write to you all in one letter. Bro. Wolff thinks it is not safe to send all our mail for fear it may be lost. I have many letters ready to send having written now and then as I found time. How are you all? Oh! I have wondered and wondered about each one! The fishermen will come in May; they start the latter part of March. Thus far we have been busy; happy and contented. We know that the Lord has graciously kept us so. We feel quite at home, are not homesick, although talking of home is the favorite theme. Marion and Roy said when they heard me say I would write home, "Tell your papa we will come to see them." Roy has planned long ago, that he



TRAVELING IN LABRADOR.

would climb trees and let my little brother play with his wheelbarrow, a favorite plaything. He will think Frank is little because his picture when he wore dresses, hangs in my room. The children talk more of going to my house than anywhere else. Of course I have described you all. They had a Christmas tree and one day when they were eating nuts in the dining-room part of the kitchen, I said last year Elsie wished so much they might have a Christmas tree this year, when they said, "O tell her to come to us and play with our things." Marion wrote two letters to Elsie and one to Susie.

I have some good news to tell; Lewis Ginther, the man left in charge of the Cannery, will begin to come to instructions next Tuesday, preparatory to confirmation. He is forty-six years old. When the vessel left last year he came for our mail because we did not send it soon enough, and a day or two later Bro. Wolff went to see him and brought him along back for a little feast. He was introduced to the rest of us; he was invited to come and see us often and to attend our services, which he did regularly even to such as we kept during the week as Thanksgiving and New Year. He was quite serious during services and often seemed touched. He told all about his life; how he commenced to earn his living when only eight years old; his mother was a poor widow; when still very young he left home as a sailor; he planned to come home again as soon as possible, but never did. He has gone through many dangers and hardships, but seems to have heard very little of the Gospel and has not been in a family for a long time. Bro. Wolff and he had several serious talks during which he gave his consent to come to instructions. Sister Wolff has read the Pilgrim's Progress during the week and Mr. Ginther came every evening through the worst weather we have had this Winter. Bro. Wolff has asked him searching questions and has given him time to draw back if really in earnest.

On Christmas evening we had love-feast, as much as possible like at home. Bro. Wolff was minister and organist, Sister Wolff sang the choir pieces and we all sang the children's part; I served sugar pretzels and coffee and candles; each got one. We spent a merry Christmas. The natives came to congratulate us saying "Brons-nicken," some shaking hands while they said it. The first one came before breakfast. We gave him a large pretzel, a cup of tea, and a paper bag containing cakes and a card. He went away delighted. Soon all the rest came in companies of ten or more. Bro. Wolff gave each a pilot eraeker and some a nut or two. Many came from Nushagak. They had their Christmas about twelve days after ours. The Russian Church claims the people of our village too. On the day after Christmas some little boys came before daylight to see the tree.

Our school opened the second week in January with nine pupils; counting the children and Sophie. The natives were gone to their yearly dance and did not return for a few weeks. There are now twenty-one enrolled; many more would

come; but are kept away through the influence of the Russian priest. These that come get along very nicely. All know their letters except one little boy; some spell and read short sentences. They write remarkably well for beginners, can count and understand pretty well when spoken to in English. Sister Wolff and I teach the girls to sew, the older ones to sweep and dust and one we taught ironing. We will teach all kinds of house-work. We have made clothes for one girl and will make for some of the others. We must give them clothes and make them. Some are dressed quite warm in their way. Balonga, the girl we dressed is fifteen years old. The first day the lice were so thick on her head that they fell off and ran around on the desk. I washed her and put blue ointment on her head. After I had combed out the tangles with a coarse tooth-comb, I used a fine one. Above the ears there were so many kinks that the hair was quite stiff and the lice came off in combfuls. I left her go before her hair was quite cleaned because I was afraid her head would hurt. Next day I put some more ointment on and we gave her two combs and told her to use them. Bro. Wolff gave each a small piece of soap and a comb and told them how to use them. He teaches the boys to cut and saw wood and such things. We have three from Togiak, a village about three miles from here. We board them and they sleep in the village. Two more have applied whom we have to board too. One of the boys in the village often comes here to meals; his older brother sometimes comes to school. He knew the letters and could spell a few words; he learned from the fishermen. He is dressed in citizen's clothing. He fishes for the company in Summer and hunted seal and otter in Winter. Mr. Ginther says he would rather have him help than any of the fishermen. Another young man, a native, helped the cook. The captain wanted to take him to San Francisco and offered him twenty dollars per month, but the priest would not give his consent and so he could not go. So you see how quickly they learn and how useful they are when taught. We feel encouraged, although there are some hard and unpromising things. At times when things seem dark I am reminded of our dear pastor's saying, "When His hour strikes for relieving, help breaks forth amazingly."

The weather has been very changeable. The store-room and my bed-room are heated by the kitchen fire. Before Christmas the sun rose at twenty minutes after nine and set twenty minutes after three, now it sets after five and rises between eight and nine. We have had cold and mild spells ever since; none quite as cold as then, but some twenty degrees below zero. Nothing froze but the lily, and of that only a few leaves. The beginning of this month was very windy with a fine snow which drifted in a double row of drifts on the north side of the house and high ones on the south side. But in a short time it was mild; only a little below the freezing point; then it commenced to rain and the snow settled fast. The eastern was filled too. Day before yesterday was

a bright clear morning after the rain and there was a rainbow in the sky. The next day it was six or eight below zero. We do not seem to suffer much from these changes; are all well except Sister Wolff's head aches.

Bro. Wolff weighed us one day. He weighed 172, Sister Wolff 214, Marion 44 and Roy 45, and I 130 pounds; more than I ever weighed before; my chin is quite double. We three older ones have all had to widen our clothes.

We have had 449 grouse since New Year, 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds of nice moose steak, a salt goose and one mess of fresh fish. Before Christmas Mr. Ginther killed his little pig and gave us a generous piece.

The natives have very poor clothes, and we feel as though we would like to beg our friends to send us some cast-off clothes. We do the best we can with such things as we have, but we can not help them so much as we ought to, as we have not the material. We will give them a change, make the older girls wash them when dirty. This is our plan, but it is not carried out yet.

Please give my love and thanks to the friends who have been so kind to me. Tell the little boys there is a good hill to coast here and plenty of snow. We have not had a ride on a dog-sled; the dogs are very scarce; they died or were killed last Summer, being mad. I must close; with much love to all, I am your daughter and sister,

MARY HUBER.

—From the *Lititz Express*.

Received for the Alaska Mission:

Philadelphia, Second Church, Sunday School.	11 15
Friends in England and Germany.....	44 46
Oakland, Sunday School.....	1 00
Previously acknowledged.....	2762 22
 Total.....	\$2818 83

ROBT. DE SCHWEINITZ,

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., AUGUST 8, 1858.

NEWS FROM ALASKA.—We most gladly yield editorial space this week so as to be able to present to our churches the good news just received from Alaska. The Lord has rewarded the patience and perseverance and fidelity of our missionaries. Now that the good work, the actual work for which they were sent, has begun to show signs of fruitage, let us support them in redoubled earnestness with our gifts and prayers.

OFFICIAL ITEM.

REPORTED BY THE PROVINCIAL BOARD.

Very cheering reports and letters from our Mission Stations in Alaska were received on Saturday, the 4th inst. Under date of June 8, Brother Kilbuck writes, that, although, the Mis-

sion family at Bethel had experienced some sickness, and he especially had suffered much from sore eyes, yet on the whole, they had passed through the Winter very comfortably and had enjoyed many blessings. He feels greatly encouraged in the work, and we rejoice with him, that the power of the Gospel is beginning to manifest itself most evidently among those benighted heathen. Ever since the celebration of the Christmas festival, a very marked religious awakening has taken place among the natives. They are eager to have the Gospel preached to them and come from long distances to the Station for that purpose. The natives of several villages have offered to build chapels, and are now engaged in collecting logs, and they earnestly ask to be instructed in the truths of our holy religion. For all further details we refer to Brother Kilbuck's report, as published in this paper. The vessel which brings the annual mail and supplies to the missionaries, had arrived off the mouth of the Kuskokwim River and was in sight of Brother Kilbuck, who, with his whole family, had gone

down to the warehouse to meet it, but when he closed his last letter no landing had as yet been effected.

Under date of June 18, Brother Wolff also reports very favorable progress in the work at Carmel. He writes that the Mission family are all well and have spent the Winter very comfortably. In as much as Bro. Wolff has as yet not acquired a sufficient knowledge of the Esquimaux language he could not instruct the people as much as he desired, but yet he is very hopeful for the future, and thinks that some good has been accomplished. The chief hindrance, however, to the progress of the work at Carmel, is the intense hatred and opposition of the Greek priests, who persistently entice away the scholars from our school and in every possible way oppose the labors of our missionaries.

From Bro. E. Weber two letters have been received, the first from Ounalaska, under date of May 27, and the second from on board the schooner *Pearl*, lying off the mouth of the Kuskokwim River, under date of June 7. Brother Weber had had a prosperous voyage of eleven days from San Francisco to Ounalaska, and thence had sailed in the *Pearl*, by way of Ugashick, on the Silena River, to the Kuskokwim. At the closing of his letter he was waiting for the turning of the tide, when he expected to sail up the river and would then meet Brother Kilbuck at the warehouse and thence proceed up to Bethel.

LETTERS FROM ALASKA.

BETHEL, ALASKA, June 2, 1888. }
TO THE PROVINCIAL ELDERS' CONFERENCE.

DEAR BRETHREN: It is now my pleasure once more to report to you concerning the welfare and progress of the work here at Bethel on the Kuskokwim River. I say, "pleasure," for I rejoice to be able to speak of the manner in which our Lord has seen fit to reveal His power in reaching the hearts of these natives about us. You, who only get a yearly glimpse of this field, are anxious for this third annual report; for thus far you have only heard of trials and difficulties which seem to be constantly arising before us in our work. Twice you have heard us whisper "Courage;" but, now, through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ we would shout, "Rejoice! rejoice! the Sun of Righteousness is rising, and the first rays are even now falling upon this hitherto benighted people." Yes, dear brethren, the Lord has heard your prayers, and has so blessed our efforts that at this writing I can report an awakening among this people.

The Christmas celebration, which we held this year, was the means of arousing the interest of these natives in the message of Christ. We had about fifty natives with us at Christmas, who came from a distance. Several were present who live above Kolmakoffski; some from away down

the river, and others again from over the tundra. With the aid of the trader's wife I talked quite at length to the people, and it was with no small pleasure that I noticed the interest and earnest attention depicted on their countenances, as they leaned forward toward the speaker. On the following day I was requested to repeat part of the service. The fame of this celebration has already traveled far and wide, and God, who gives the increase, only knows how far into the future that simple service will be felt.

Some time in January I conceived the idea of building a small chapel up the river about thirty miles by water. This point is centrally located and can be easily reached from three large villages. I was unable, however, to see my way clear, until on the morning of January 16, when the daily word read, "Go up and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the Lord." I have considered this a message sent to me by the Lord, and I have since then been at work preparing to be absent from home this Summer.

As soon as I had made public my intention of building a chapel up the river the natives about us became much interested in the project.

Moreover in a short time I received word from a village over the tundra, about twenty-five miles from here, to the effect that if I desired to be their priest the people of that village would make preparations for the erection of a chapel, so that they too may not be without the Gospel. I visited the tundra village, and found the people quite eager for a chapel. Although it is difficult to get building material, in so much as the logs must be

rafted against the current of a small river for a long distance, the people pledged themselves to furnish the building material, if I would come and see that the building is put up. The people are in earnest, as will be seen from the fact, that a few days ago a young man of that village passed here on his way up the river to mark logs, and thus secure them. This is necessary, as the tundra people raft logs every year from this river for their Winter use.

A third village was visited during the Winter. This village was well represented at our Christmas celebration. I visited this village for the purpose of holding a service. The people listened very attentively, as I endeavored to tell them about our God of love. After the service the men asked if I would not build a chapel at their village. If I would they would help all they could, and all that I needed to do would be to furnish several carpenters to raise the house, and myself to superintend the building. I could not promise for this year, but advised them to go to work and collect logs.

But this is not all. We still have another reason for rejoicing.

During the Easter week, although I had no prospect of having an audience, other than the children about us, I began my native services on Palm Sunday. In a few days strangers began to drop in, and none went away until the Easter services were closed, and this in spite of the fact that the time for their Spring migration was at hand. These services were all held in what native language I could command, and if it had not been for the deep interest and evident desire for something to satisfy a craving already awakened in their hearts, these services would no doubt have been wearisome to my audience. But, thanks be to our Lord! I was able to hold their attention twice and even three times a day; and each service was from one hour and a half to two hours long. I endeavored, as far as I was able, to give them a translation of our Passion Week readings. On Good Friday the audience was deeply stirred when we reached the crucifixion. When I ex-

plained to them that the blood shed on the cross by Jesus Christ, was for the taking away of our badness (sin), the older men exclaimed "Kou-já-nah!" (Thanks.) And, added, "we too, desire to have our badness taken away by that blood."

On Easter Sunday at the early service, forty people gathered about the grave of Brother Torgersen. There we sang of Christ's glorious resurrection, in the native language. These songs are used in the Greek Church, and I obtained them from Mrs. Lind. I only used those that were appropriate and evangelical. The first was concerning the visit of Mary to the grave, and the words of the angel addressed to her. The second was: Jesus Christ was among the dead, He had died indeed, but is now again among the living, no more to die. The third: There has come to us from on high Jesus Christ, who will save us, and will make us holy if we ask Him. The service was closed with the singing of "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

This was a blessed season for us all, and in it we truly experienced the wonderful power of God over the hearts of men. Since then we, who have waited, and worked for the first visible fruits, have not ceased to rejoice and thank our gracious Lord. We have seen the power of Jesus to save even to the uttermost, and we would ask you to join us in praying for grace and wisdom that we may not "quench the Spirit."

It only remains for me to speak a few words concerning other work. During the year, our health has in general been good. We have, to be sure, been sick a great deal during the Winter, but not seriously so. My eyes are the source of my trouble, and many of my friends will at the most get only a few lines, as my eyes were very sore just about the time I had time and leisure to write.

Last Summer not much building was accomplished, owing to the fact that I had no workmen last year until late in August. One of the two workmen was a green hand, and besides that he managed to cut his foot. I only had the walls of the new house up, when cold weather set in, which stopped the work. Besides this, I fixed up our first log house and made a dwelling-house out of it for us, and the frame-house I turned over to school purposes. I also managed to persuade natives to bring us logs and fire-wood, and in this way I had fuel all Winter, besides I was able to have about 1,500 feet of rough lumber sawed in February and March of this year. The buying of food for the school, also looking after our own fishing, took up some, and not a small portion of my time last Summer. With the fish that I bought from Mr. Sipary (2000) I had about 3,300 salmon, besides, quite a number of whitefish. In the Fall I bought thirty bags of blackfish, and three of frozen whitefish. This amount of food has been sufficient for eighteen natives and nine dogs, and I have some salmon left for dog food.

Last September I sent three natives in the *Bethel Star* down the river to the warehouse, after what goods we had left there. In five days they returned, bringing not only all our goods, but also a messenger from Nushagak with a big bag full of mail. The sleigh you sent us, I have not been able to use, but no doubt the time will come when we can use it.

I closed school in April, as I had a good deal to do to get ready for my Summer's work. During May I had one carpenter busy hewing window-frames, beams and rafters, and some logs for finishing the new log house. I myself have renovated the frame-house; making quite a number of alterations. Finally, I think I have a warm house, and one that we can live in with comfort. I am, therefore, ready for work abroad, for we ourselves have a good warm house, and whoever comes up, will have a house already, so that they can settle right down, and go right to work to help me. He will not be compelled to wait a year before he can do missionary work but can begin at once. Now this is the summary of the work accomplished; it is not much, but to inexperienced hands, a good deal of time and anxiety is necessary.

Now, I will speak of the school. I have not been able to have more than seventeen scholars during this entire year. The principal reason for this was, because I could not travel to distant vil-

lages to get scholars. I find that one or two from one village is about all that I can get. Of these seventeen scholars, twelve were boarders, and eight of these are new scholars. Of the two hundred days required by the government I have taught 156. Sickness in my household has been one reason why I have come short, and the other is because I closed in April, on the 26th. This year the school is to open in August, and thus I hope that the full number of days will have been taught by the end of the year.

As Sister Kilbuck has prepared quite a detailed journal for you, I need not go outside of my report to tell you about our experiences during the last year. We are grateful to our dear Saviour, that we can cheer your hearts this year. This time last year we looked into the future with too little faith, for we rather expected that when we reported to you again, it would be only to say, "wait, wait." But the Lord had pity for our weakness, and showed to us His mighty power. We have also been borne up by the knowledge that the brethren at home were sending up earnest petitions to the throne of grace, asking for the increase of our faith and courage.

We now, again bid you continue your prayers in our behalf, for we have need of them. Once more we bid you farewell for another year, and in doing so we bless the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ, because we can turn to our work with light hearts and eager hands to work.

I remain your brother in Christ,
JOHN H. KILBUCK.

The Journal of the Missionaries at Carmel,
Alaska.

After the departure of the last vessel in the Fall, we began our work again with renewed vigor; for our last letters to our dear friends were written and gone; and for aught that we could tell this Alaskan Winter might set in upon us very soon, and many things must necessarily be done before. Brother Wolff was several times obliged to leave his work and go to Nushagak to see about getting wood for the Winter's use. One of these trips he made on the 6th of September, and when he returned, he brought with him a pair hair seal fur boots, a present to me from the Deacon's wife of the Greek Church at Nushagak; she is a Russian woman.

In the early morning of September 12, a number of wild geese alighted at only a very short distance from the house. Brother Wolff sent a native after them with his gun; in a few minutes he returned with five geese, having used only three shells. About this time our cat and kitten disappeared mysteriously. We felt very sorry, for they were very pretty, having just about fully recovered from the ill-effects of the sea-voyage.

During the afternoon of September 16, the wife of the Russian Deacon of Nushagak visited us. She wanted a dress pattern for herself and an apron pattern for a child. We gave her both; but when she boldly demanded of us to give her some of our already made garments, we blankly refused her, also when she asked permission to smoke her pipe. We treated her, however, to some fresh sugar-cake and lemonade. (She is accustomed to being treated to wine, or rather something stronger.)

September 17 was a cold and dismal day, and in the early part of the afternoon it began to blow very hard and rain. Brother Wolff took the cart (made in Bethlehem) and hurried to get in several loads of turf, which had been left to dry where it was dug, at a distance of about one-half mile from the house. Rain continued to fall almost constantly until

September 22, when Brother Wolff with the help of a native set to work again at the sod-house—beginning to put a roof on. We will then use it for keeping fuel dry, as we can not put the necessary quantity into the wood-shed. Brother Wolff shot a goose this afternoon, a flock having alighted quite near here.

September 23.—Brother Wolff and the native were still at work upon the sod-house roof, occasional showers of rain compelling them to quit at times. We had our tent up beside the house ever since we were here to protect some

things for which we would otherwise have had no immediate shelter. This morning a mad dog got into the tent and as he could not be gotten out. Brother Wolff shot him just where he was, the native man helping, then took him, dragged him to the bank of the river and rolled him over.

September 24.—We got the first moose-meat. Mr. Louis procured it for us from some natives, who had just returned from a hunt. Mr. Louis Guenther is the man left here by the Arctic Packing Co., to take care of their buildings throughout the Winter. He is not accustomed to being called by his surname and so we always call him "Mr. Louis." He is the only white person in this village besides us; and is always very welcome when he comes here.

Sunday, September 25, was a lovely day and a great treat to us. The early morning was real cold, and the mountains in the distance were covered with freshly fallen snow, (the snow remains on some throughout the Summer) while here with us the ground was not even frozen. When the sun arose warm and bright the snow on the mountains disappeared again.

On September 26 three native boys helped Brother Wolff to bring up cart-loads of turf, and placed it in the sod-house.

September 28.—Two natives were at work bringing up turf. Bro. Wolff built a sidewalk from the wood-shed to the sod-house.

October 1 dawned bright; but rather cold, with considerable frost. "Crist" employed by the Alaska Commercial Co.'s agent at Nushagak brought about six cords of wood to the beach for us. We had hoped they would be able to sell us more; but feel thankful to be able to buy so

much. Two native men again helped Brother Wolff to-day; they cleared up about the house in general, and towards evening the tent was taken down; I fear we shall miss it; for it has been there ever since we are here. This evening Brother Wolff made a window-sash for "Charlie" the eldest son of the late Chief.

October 2.—Rain fell at intervals, and this evening a large and beautiful rainbow was visible. We kept our Sunday-school and service as usual; the Sabbaths generally seem very short. Mr. Louis has a standing invitation to be with us on this day, and he seems to be very glad to be able to take part in our services.

By October 3 the weather had again moderated somewhat, and the ground not being frozen "Charlie" with the help of a native boy was again set to work at turf-digging, and they worked briskly all day. Brother Wolff began building the storm house for the side door. This morning "Charlie's" wife visited us, her name is "Iris-aveda." The rules of etiquette are somewhat reversed here with us, for nearly all our company is received in the kitchen and rear hall, and without any reference to the time, break of day doing as well as any other.

October 4.—There was more frost again; but the day remained fair. Brother Wolff was still working at the storm house, and finished putting the roof on. "Charlie" and two boys were hauling turf. "Dahlia" helped to wash again; our method of washing seems very strange to these poor women, nevertheless they seem anxious to learn. Aunt Mary made her a present of a handkerchief, and hopes she will make good use of it. A little snow seems to be added every night to that already on the mountains, and to-day they formed a beautiful sight with the sunlight just touching them here and there. The children spent the forenoon out of doors, and were closely watched in their play by a number of native children.

October 5.—Was a rainy day, Brother Wolff put two windows into the wood-shed, and we were very glad, for it had been a very dark place.

October 6.—The steps from the house into the wood-shed were made to-day.

October 7.—The steps for the side of the house, by the storm-house were made; also the sidewalk from there up to the walk from the wood-shed door. Later in the day the sod-house was improved by a window and a door.

October 10.—Mr. Louis brought us three wild ducks. A native was drawing dirt out of the well all day.

October 11, dawned bright, clear and cold. The mountains to the west of us appear whiter and whiter every day.

October 12.—The early morning was very cloudy and cold; but cleared up nicely again about noon. Charlie chopped turf and brought some into the wood-shed; but seemed to lack all energy. Brother Wolff was busy at the windows, etc., fastening and tightening up all the cracks, and air-holes. Brother Wolff sent a native out with a gun and ammunition, and this

afternoon he returned with a fat duck. Mr. Louis also brought us a goose.

October 13—Was rather cold, and some snow fell throughout the day. Brother Wolff was busy all morning putting weather strips to the windows from the outside. Surely our house should prove comfortable.

October 14.—Very little of yesterday's snow remained on the ground to-day; it thawed away soon after it ceased falling. There was a high wind blowing all the time. Two natives helped Brother Wolff in the school-house, the ceiling was put in, and one end boarded up.

October 15.—A little snow fell during the night, and early this morning the native children were out with their rude little sleds, having great sport. During the day it rained at times, and was very damp and windy, just such weather as makes one truly thankful for a comfortable room to stay in. Brother Wolff and two natives were again at work in the school-house, and another one cutting turf. Mr. Louis again brought us two geese.

October 17.—The weather to-day was, in a way, very pretty, glimpses of sunshine being followed by puffs of snow.

October 19.—Snow and sunshine again chasing after each other to-day until about 4 P.M., when a heavier gust than usual came, and more snow fell than at any time yet this season. The snow is very wet and heavy. Brother Wolff put up the chimney for the school-house. A native was still at work with the turf. Mr. Louis brought us two geese this morning. He had gone out in his skiff on the 17th inst., not intending to stay long, but stuck fast on a mud-bank, and was obliged to remain there all that night and the next day until evening, when a high tide set him free.

October 20 was bright and clear. The children spent some hours out of doors with their sleds.

October 22.—The stairs to the attic were put in to-day; thus far we had used a rough temporary stairway.

October 24.—Rain was falling, and the snow has almost all disappeared again. A window was put into the store-room, and door-sills put down.

November 1.—At day-break Brother Wolff started out for a hunt. The morning was a beautiful one, and when we arose the moon was just sinking down below the mountains, where there was a strip of pale blue and then brightly tinged pink clouds, belting the horizon. Brother Wolff returned in time for breakfast, bringing with him two grouse, and something else—apparently heavy and as he approached nearer and nearer we saw it was a beautiful white rabbit. It weighed ten pounds. The children spent the entire forenoon out of doors with their sleds. Two little native girls drew them about for quite a long time, we gave each a good dinner for their kindness. Brother Wolff began painting to-day, and succeeded in priming the study, our bed-room, and the store-room ceilings.

November 2 was a cold and bleak day; the wind was very high. About 4.30 P.M., the sun had set, just leaving a tinge of red, low down, behind the mountains, making the dark sky appear so

much colder and fiercer in contrast. Brother Wolff painted the ceilings of Aunt Mary's room, the sitting-room, front hall and kitchen.

November 3 was a lovely day, and the children spent the forenoon out of doors building snow huts. In the afternoon Aunt Mary and I took a walk. It was just cold enough to make us feel like walking along briskly, and we enjoyed it. We went down to the place where our turf was dug, and then we slipped from one knoll to the other, down the steep bank until we reached the shore, where we found a good path. We then walked along until we reached the Cannery. Going home we passed through the village, having taken our walk almost in a complete circle. The river was full of floating ice crushing together.

November 5.—Brother Wolff gave the ceiling of the rooms a second coat of paint. "Charlie" was here to help with the puttying.

November 8.—The weather to-day, as well as the past two days, has been lovely. Brother Wolff gave our bed-room ceiling a second coat of paint.

November 9.—The thermometer indicated 8 degrees below zero. There was no wind, however, and we were very comfortable. At break of day (8 A.M.) Brother Wolff went to the village for "Charlie" to come and chop wood. Painting was being done in the kitchen. Mr. Louis brought us a mess of small fresh fish.

November 12 was a bright and beautiful day. The children spent some time out of doors during the afternoon. Brother Wolff finished the painting.

November 13.—This has again been a lovely day. Oh how thankful we feel to our Heavenly Father for every bright day bestowed upon us. Our service and Sunday-school were held as usual. At 8 P.M., we celebrated the Holy Communion, and the Lord be praised for the fulfillment of His Word anew to us, "where two or three are gathered together in My name, there will I be in the midst of them."

November 14 was again a beautiful day. The sun rises at 8.15 A. M. and sets at quarter of 4 P. M. The thermometer seems to favor the region of 6 degrees above zero. Brother Wolff arose early and went out hunting, returning at 10.30 A. M. with five grouse. He then painted the hall leading to the side door.

November 15 was a dreary day, and this morning snow was falling. Brother Wolff had Charlie help him, beginning to put muslin on the walls, preparatory to papering them. It is very trying work.

November 18 was a beautiful sunshiny day, and the children spent several very happy hours out of doors wading at times knee-deep in the snow. We spent most of our time for the past two days and to-day in sewing the muslin for the walls; but the last piece for the house was sewed to-day. All is lined now but the kitchen, and that will probably be finished to-morrow.

November 20.—Rain began to fall last evening and continued throughout to-day.

November 21.—Still raining, and it is dark, gloomy, and exceedingly damp. The snow has almost all disappeared again, also the ice in the

riv ; This morning Mr. Louis brought us two spr *ce* grouse and a plateful of small fresh fish. Brother Wolff began to wash the muslin on the walls with glue water in order to shrink it preparatory to putting the paper on.

November 22 was still damp and cloudy, threatening to rain. Mr. Louis brought us a very nice harness for our dog 'Mack.' Brother Wolff began paper hanging.

November 24.—Thanksgiving Day. Mr. Louis stopped in a few minutes this morning and brought us a piece of bear meat. We ironed busily until about 4.30 P.M. Brother Wolff also finished papering the sitting-room this afternoon. At 6 P.M. we enjoyed a hearty Thanksgiving meal, dressed grouse being our turkey. Mr. Louis was with us. This evening Brother Wolff held a praise-meeting using our usual Litany for the day. We enjoyed it very much. It has been raining all day.

November 25.—Rain has been falling fast all day, and it is *very damp*, and unhealthy, although the house being so well built, and having a good cheerful fire in addition, we manage not to feel it so very much.

November 26 was again a very dark and dreary day. We were obliged to light the lamps at 3 P.M. Brother Wolff papered Aunt Mary's room. We had some bear meat for dinner.

November 27.—The rainy weather continues. We enjoyed our Sunday-school and Service as usual. We spent the evening in reading.

November 28 dawned bright and clear and it did us good to see the bright sunshine again. About an inch of snow fell during the night. With the earliest sign of dawn, Brother Wolff started out with his gun, and returned about 11 A.M. with two grouse. He then began papering our bed-room and worked with wonderful rapidity, finishing it yet in the early part of the evening. We cleaned Aunt Mary's room, sewed, and then put the carpet down.

November 29 was again a lovely day. The sun arose this morning at a quarter of nine o'clock, and set at 3.15 P.M., the moon rising at almost the same time. Brother Wolff papered in the kitchen to-day, while we cleaned our bed-room and this evening Brother Wolff helped us put the carpet down, and fix things in general. The room looked pretty and cozy when finished. The children enjoy running out of doors every day, although it is now growing gradually colder. We retired about 11 P.M., very tired.

November 30.—Brother Wolff to-day finished papering the kitchen. The stove pipe was taken down and polished, which caused our meals to stretch very far apart. A native was sawing wood.

December 1.—Brother Wolff papered the hall. We succeeded in getting the study carpet down, and bound the carpet for the sitting-room.

December 2 was a beautiful day. Finished the sitting room, and began to get the oil cloth upon the kitchen floor.

December 3.—The day was again a fine one, although each day seems to grow colder and

shorter. Finished the kitchen to-day and now it feels more home-like in the house.

December 4 was again a beautiful but cold day. We felt very comfortable in our newly fixed home. We kept our Sunday-school as usual and the children sang heartily. Our usual service was conducted by Brother Wolff this afternoon. Mr. Louis was not here, we missed him very much, for we are now so accustomed to having him with us.

December 5 dawned beautifully bright and clear, but cold. Still we are in excellent spirits, and there is song upon song floating upon the air. Mr. Louis called this morning; said he was in Nushagak yesterday; was sorry he missed the service. He seemed to enjoy the sight of our pretty rooms very much. Indeed it seemed to touch a tender spot within him, and he seemed deeply moved, when he said, "Well, it is a long, long time since I've been in as pretty a room as this." O! that he may too, soon be touched by the beauty and preciousness of our dear Saviour! He went home, and returned again immediately with two red fox skins and one large mink skin, of which he made us a present; how kind it really was of him. Two natives were at work with the wood and coal to-day. Poor Brother Wolff must now make a fresh start and begin work in the school-house again; it seems too bad.

December 6.—Two native men helping Brother Wolff put down the floor in the school-house.

December 10.—The day was very dark throughout. We were barely able to see without a lighted lamp at 9 A.M., having to light one again at 3 P.M. Brother Wolff made the book-shelves for the study, and this evening unpacked the books.

December 12.—Was a fine but very cold day. The sun was visible only throughout a few hours during the middle of the day. The wind blew violently, taking the loose snow up with it, and reminding us of a Dakota blizzard. About 3.30 P.M. we closed the shutters for all the windows. It was steadily growing colder, the thermometer indicating then 18 degrees below zero. About 11 P.M. smoke began to escape from the kitchen stove in such great puffs that Brother Wolff was obliged to go out, and in spite of the fierce wind and blowing snow, and though the thermometer registered by this time at least twenty degrees below zero, had to climb on to the roof to the chimney to see what was the matter. He found that frost had collected and was choking the air passages.

December 13.—The wind still continues high. The thermometer indicated twenty degrees below zero this morning. A native man came of his own accord and began shoveling snow; it is all drifted in high mounds about our house. It would seem as though all the snow was blown away from the plains and lodged about here. The sun rose at 9 A.M. and set at 3 P.M.

December 14 was again a short sunny day. The thermometer still favors the region of twenty degrees below zero. The children spent a short time out of doors, running about on the high snow banks. Got four grouse to-day.

December 15.—The thermometer this morning registered thirty degrees below zero; the wind has gone down however. Brother Wolff was very busy to-day—in the school-house—making blackboards.

December 16.—Was again a very cold day.

December 17.—Was rather warmer, but cloudy.

December 18.—The thermometer indicated about two degrees below freezing point; the wind was blowing very hard.

December 19.—The weather was disagreeable, high winds, with rain and snow.

December 21, was a lovely day. The sun now rises at 9.20 A. M., and sets at 2.40 P. M. We ironed all day, and this evening we sewed until very late. Some natives were hauling wood for us to-day.

December 22, was again a lovely day, and the children spent some time out of doors. We baked Christmas cakes. Mr. Louis butchered, and brought us somewhat more than one-fourth of his little porker.

December 23, was a very busy day indeed. Out-of-door lovely; In-doors baking, cleaning, etc., in order, and many little things to finish yet before the morrow.

December 24.—*Our first Christmas Eve in Alaska.*—All up early, and at day-break already entertaining two native women. Mr. Louis brought the Christmas trees, the prettiest one for the house, and the other two on either side of the walk. Mr. Louis seemed as happy and excited as a child; we asked him to stay and help put up the tree and he did. Finally the tree was decorated, the tapers lit, and then the children were brought out. Their delight and happiness can better be imagined than described. After dinner they claimed Mr. Louis as their property, and got him to tell them all about the decorations. In the evening Bro. Wolff conducted the service customary for the occasion, and in connection therewith held a love-feast. We all enjoyed it very much, the little ones being particularly pleased with their lighted wax tapers. Amidst all our joy and pleasure, we could not help but think of home, and the dear ones there. Were they thinking of us? Yes, we felt sure there were some who were. Oh, how grateful then to feel that although thousands of miles are stretched between us, we are yet rejoicing over the birth of the same Lord and Saviour. After Mr. Louis had gone home and the children had been put to bed, we began again to finish up all for Christmas. Each little parcel carefully tied and labeled, and all finished, the candy bags made and filled—all kept us very busy until late when we retired, too weary for "visions of sugar plums to dance through our heads."

December 25.—Was a merry, merry, Christmas Day. "The Lord be praised for He is good, and His mercy endureth forever." Such a joyous, happy Christmas time we had not dared to expect for our first year in Alaska. We arose rather late this morning; but all well and happy as larks. That wonderful 'Santa Claus' had put up a curtain clear across that part of the kitchen, where the Christmas tree stood, so we could not see

anything to distract our minds, until prayers and breakfast were all over. Mr. Louis was here, for we had invited him to spend Christmas with us. After the breakfast things were all safely cleared away, the curtain was withdrawn, and Bro. Wolff read one name after the other from different little parcels, etc. Each one received some little token of love, almost entirely home-made—for in a country like this Christmas shopping is necessarily dropped. In addition to each parcel was a bag containing a few candies and nuts with some cakes. In the afternoon we enjoyed our usual Sunday service, after which the natives came in companies of from ten to fifteen in number. They continued to come all evening and their exclamations of surprise and admiration were many. We gave each one a trifle and they seemed pleased.

December 31.—During the past week numbers of natives came to see the Christmas tree. The weather has been bright and clear, the thermometer indicating 10 degrees below zero. To-day the wind blew violently, carrying the snow into huge drifts. This evening Mr. Louis was with us, and Bro. Wolff, held a service closing the year. It was a blessed hour, and we felt the presence of the Lord. His name be praised forevermore, for His mercy and goodness have been great toward us. Surely He hath upheld us with the right hand of His righteousness.

M. E. WOLFF.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., AUGUST 15, 1888.

OUR CHURCH WORK IN ALASKA.—We are confident that none of our readers will find fault with us for again sparing them editorial advice, counsel, rebuke, etc., by yielding editorial space to the reports sent by our missionaries in Alaska.

THE MISSION IN ALASKA.

CARMEL, NUSHAGAK RIVER, }
Alaska, June 5, 1888. }

DEAR BROTHER R. DE SCHWEINITZ:—Our long looked for and anxiously expected mail was received on the morning of Ascension Day, May 10; it came by a fishing vessel of the Alaska Commercial Company, and they were here a week before we received them, because the vessel could not come in any farther than the mouth of the river, on account of the ice. We thank you heartily for your kind and loving letter, it did us so much good. We were indeed deeply grieved to hear of the death of our dear Bishop de Schweinitz, and we sympathize with you, as well as his dear family, in this sad bereavement. We feel that we too have sustained a great loss, for he was to us a most true and warm-hearted friend and counselor.

We are very thankful to say that we are all very happy and content, and have been so ever since we are here, with the exception of an occasional cold caught by one or the other, which is however not worth mentioning. Surely the Lord has been very merciful to us. We enjoyed what we call a very pleasant Winter for this country, only at two different times was the thermometer at 30 degrees below zero. The cold weather began gradually in October; we did not get enough snow, however, to amount to anything until some time in November. Of course we had snow before this, but rain and sunshine quickly took it away again. The coldest spell we had was in December, about the third week. The weather was constantly changing all Winter from warm to cold and from cold to warm, generally making the rounds once a month. The first two weeks in January it rained a great deal ending with a snow storm; after that the weather continued very bright and clear. In March we had some more snow; but from the middle of January to the time of this writing no rain worth mentioning has fallen. There was quite an amount of snow; but it generally had a good hard crust on, so that one could go anywhere right over the top, either on foot or with dog and sled. The snow all disappeared by the heat of the sun and air, and all seem to be surprised at the fine weather which we are enjoying this Spring. It is exceptional. We notice from all accounts that the Winter was extremely severe throughout the East and West, and it does seem as though the usual severities of climate were reversed, and our friends at home given a taste of the severity of an Alaskan Winter, although they can never yet fully comprehend what it means, when the Winter continues so much longer, and the days are so very short and gloomy.

The frost being out of the ground sufficiently on May 23, 24, to allow spading, I planted some things in our garden, and I saw this morning that the lettuce, radishes and peas are up; but whether they will mature, remains to be seen. I planted some potatoes and various other things and I hope by Fall to be able to give a good report of them.

My last letter for 1887 I wrote to Bishop de Schweinitz on September 1; on February 11, 1888, I wrote another hurried letter to him which was sent to Kodiak, and was from there to be taken to San Francisco. I had very faint hopes however of its ever reaching Kodiak.

In the Fall I succeeded in finishing the buildings on the outside, with the exception of painting. Mr. Beekwith, who supplied Mr. Clark's place as trader at Nushagak, promised to let me have fifteen cords of wood: but late in the Fall when they went to fetch it he found he had only six and a half cords to spare. We got a good supply of turf, which I had cut up into strips ready for use.

As there was no time or opportunity to dry it, we packed it just as it was into the sod-house. This is the same sod-house which I commenced to build for a few the first Summer I was here. Last Summer I finished it, and found I had enough shingles remaining to make a good roof on it, and

it is a most convenient place to keep lumber, empty cases, tools, fuel, etc. The Superintendent of the Arctic Fishing Company told me he thought there was but very little coal remaining for us; but that we could have what there was, and in case we should not have enough fuel, we could "break up" the old vessel which lies wrecked near the cannery. Upon looking carefully and scraping together we found quite a good deal of coal after all, and thought it would be enough for our use, and so it was. We got one hundred and forty-four sacks; the sacks are small and will average according to my judgment about fifty pounds a piece. I do not know, however, at what the Company is going to average them. The coal was very poor, fine, soft, boiler coal; but with some wood and a little coal and then turf on the top of that, we managed to have a pretty good fire, while by putting plenty of turf on a good bed of fuel before we went to bed, the fire would keep all night. To be sure it is unhandy to take three kinds of fuel everytime the fire needs attention, which in real cold weather is almost constantly; but this is merely an example of the numerous, trivial inconveniences, which make household chores so laborious in a country like this. Our wood is not quite used up, and the turf will also last for some time. The turf, of course, froze together in the Winter; but being cut into small pieces, and piled up, it could be easily gotten apart with a crowbar or pickax. We have a bin in the wood-shed where we can keep quite a quantity, and after it is once taken apart in the sod-house and brought into the shed it will not freeze together again. The wood is all spruce and burns away very quickly, leaving no coals. During the Winter, with the assistance of some of our school-boys, I broke up some of the old wrecked vessel, and brought it up on the sled to the house. It will give us enough wood for the Summer. In this way I also got enough posts for a fence. I split them out of the lower part of some of the masts, etc.

Our chimneys, which are of terra cotta pipe with six inch hole, prove very good, with only a few little difficulties. For instance, when it is real cold and generally at night, the frost forms around the holes of the chimney cap, thus choking up the chimney completely in a short time. I am then obliged to get up at midnight, or at 3 o'clock in the morning, and get on top of the house and scrape the frost out. This was the coldest place and work I had all Winter. Then again during the Winter when the atmosphere is in a certain state, creosote forms between the chimney and the zinc pipe which surrounds it to make it fire-proof. This runs down some mornings by the quart; but I have made arrangements to collect it as it comes down; so we need only see to it that the vessels are emptied occasionally. Lastly, by using the soft and dirty coal, the stove, pipe and chimney must be cleaned very often. The cook stove must be cleaned at least once every week.

There is one thing I would like to suggest here, and that is, never to send common iron stove piping to Alaska again. It is of no account for

this country, as it rusts through in a very short time. Galvanized pipes, I think, would do better and when shipped could be packed unfinished, ready to be riveted together; in this way it would make a small package and could easily be put together afterwards.

As I wrote above, I first finished all the outside work that could be done before the cold weather came; then I began to work inside again. I put in all the doors and put on the casings for doors and windows; also the base-boards and door-sills, built a stairs, finished the store-room and pantry and hung the double windows. After this I gave the house two coats of paint. The days were very short, the sun rising between 9 and 10 o'clock A.M., and setting again between 2 and 3 P.M. So I was obliged to do most of my work by lamp-light, which naturally made the work move more slowly. No inside work had as yet been done in the school-house, although we were very anxious to begin, at the earliest possible opportunity. Yet we felt, at the same time, that for various reasons the house should by all means be finished first. Then too it was too cold to do without the carpets, and yet if we were to put them down before the walls were lined with muslin and papered we would be obliged to take all up again in a few months, and in this way make a great deal of extra work. After considerable hesitation, we concluded to finish the house first, as the holidays were so near at hand and the days were so very short and often dark and gloomy.

We then set vigorously to work at lining the house with muslin, which was all sewed together by machine and well tacked at the top, bottom and sides. This muslin was then stretched very tight, and washed with a warm solution of glue-water, which shrank the muslin and made a fine piece of work. I also mixed some glue in the paste, and then the paper hung nicely. Every room was treated in this way, with exception of the store-room and pantry, which we thought would do better without. All was finished and the rooms arranged in the early part of December.

I then began to work again in the school-house, finishing off in the same way as the house. We used only two stoves; the cooking stove is very good indeed, also the heating stove for the sitting-room, which heated the sitting-room, both the bedrooms and the study very comfortably. The double windows are a complete success, and help a great deal towards keeping the house warm. The double doors are also *very good*, and so is the floor. You will perhaps remember that this is double, with asphalt paper between, and a drop floor on the lower edge of the joists, on which there is a thin layer of dry sand. The house, on the outside between the sill and the ground, is finished off the same way as the house above, with a number of ventilators for the Summer; these are closed tight in Winter, and this past Winter the ground under the house was not even frozen. We kept some things under the house, and I was down quite a number of times, and could dig the ground with my hands every time: I am convinced that we could have a nice cellar

if we had boards to line it with, for the nature of the soil at this depth, is such, as not to hold water if any should happen to run in. It would certainly be a most desirable addition to the house, for with the earliest signs of returning warm weather, very large, troublesome, flies make their appearance, and with the utmost care it is almost impossible to keep entirely beyond their reach; while during the Winter we might be able to store many things which must be kept from freezing, with safety in a cellar.

I could not get the school-house lined and papered until after Christmas, and afterwards put the desks, platform and blackboards in. It is a very neat and pretty little school-room, and has a large stove to keep it nice and warm.

We have a good-sized cistern ten feet deep; this is let into the ground half under the house and half outside. By means of spouting all the water from the south side of the house, wood-shed and school-house runs in, and we used water from the cistern all Winter up to April, when it was empty. We have also used considerable water from our well during the Winter, but the water is not very good. It looks somewhat black from the wood with which it is lined, and tastes very strongly after it. It is so dry now that but few feet of water are in the well. We have the well and cistern pumps in the house, and we need not go outside for anything in stormy weather, even the drain being inside.

This Spring I gave the outside of the buildings one coat of paint and puttied the nail heads, etc., intending to put on the second coat right away; but there are already so many mosquitoes and little insects that I fear I will have to wait.

Our provisions were very good and ample. Our potatoes lasted until last week; we kept them in their usual place in the pantry and they did not freeze, which was more than we had dared to hope for. The Fishing Company have given us a sack of potatoes now which will last till we get our later supplies. We have nearly half of our flour left. Of game we have had an abundance. We have had all through the Winter, a great many grouse, also moose and deer meat. When we buy meat from the natives, we need pay but about one cent a pound, when we get it from the trader, however, we are obliged to pay from two and a half to three cents per pound. Of course we can only get it at times, when the natives have been successful in capturing some animal, and then they will seldom sell any to us, because they are forbidden to do so, and are so closely watched that they will not attempt to sell it outside of Nushagak. There is only this one trading post or store for hundreds of miles around, so the Greek priest and the Trading Company have the natives entirely at their command. Our canned goods were very good, and above all the Highland Milk gave greatest satisfaction. We were sorry to see that with the small lot of supplies, which we received this Spring, they marked, as we had ordered, on the bill "three cases Highland Milk," but sent us the "Anglo Swiss Milk." Part of our last year's purchase of smoked beef was spoiled; and what we got this Spring, is not at all good.

We opened the school on January 17; we could have opened the first week in January, but the celebration of Christmas took place in the Greek church about that time. The natives lay a great deal of stress upon their holidays, and all the families went to Nushagak (about three miles from here) and stayed there for several days. Immediately after this there was an annual Indian dance, at a distance of about forty or fifty miles from here, to which all the natives of this village went. As soon as they returned we opened the school, with nine scholars; and in a short time after we had twenty-one enrolled. All seemed to be going along nicely, the children seemed happy, and willing to learn. As soon as the Greek priest at Nushagak heard of our progress, he set to work with his foree, and warned the people not to send their children to our school, telling them it was bad. Some parents were even made to come and take their children from the school, demanding that their names be taken off the roll. The children were made afraid by being told that we would by and by take the boys away to San Francisco and make soldiers of them, etc. Some of the children remained with us, however, for some time, and we were agreeably surprised to see the rapid progress they made in learning, and were very much pleased with them. The opposition continued, however, and they worked hard to get all the children away from the school. When some certain ones from Nushagak passed here, the children would dodge down with their heads, so as not to be seen in school. You will see by the monthly reports how the number of scholars decreased. We did all in our power to keep them; but they were so persistently tormented that one after the other left.

As an inducement to have them come here and stay to school, we gave, almost from the very beginning, two and very often three "square meals" a day, at a table in our kitchen, to such children as came from other villages and to such from this village as were sadly in need of it. Mrs. Wolff and Miss Huber even clothed some of them, and taught them to be cleanly, and to wash, iron, and mend their clothes which they had made for them. This seemed to please the children immensely; but even by this means we fail to retain them.

The only sueeessful way to keep any thus far, has been to keep them right here in the house with us, and we have at present two Esquimau boys and the girl Sophie of whom I wrote last Fall. The boys are brothers, their mother is dead and their father lies in the kashima of this village crippled with a broken leg, and seems truly grateful that we have provided a home for his little boys. We first took the youngest boy, named Ivan; he was in a most pitiable condition, and only about seven years of age. Upon the morning of the day we intended to take Ivan, (he did not know anything of our intentions, however) Jaeob, his brother, came. He stood outside, leaning against the school-house as though anxious to hear what was going on inside. Mrs. Wolff noticed him and went out and asked him to come in. He seemed to hesitate a little at first, as though

not knowing exaetly whether it was safe or not. Then she took him by the arm and showed him that she meant he should come in, and so ushered him into the school-room. When I questioned him in regard to his name, etc., and asked him whether he wanted to come to school, he seemed willing and even anxious; but several of the boys who had been coming to school already for some time protested, saying, "No, no; he Nushagak School;" but Jacob sat down and began in good earnest to study his alphabet. He came to school regularly for about a month or more, when we thought it best to take and keep him here too. He tells us that the "Chief" at Nushagak beat him for coming to our school, and now whenever either the priest or "Chief" come into the neighborhood he hides away. I think they will learn the English language very quickly, for being right here in the house with us, and playing more or less with our children, prove great advantages to them in learning it. They understand a good deal now already, and often help me out, when natives come to talk to me, and I can not understand what they want. Happier children I never saw, than these were on the days we took them, and cleaned them of their filth, and dressed them decently. They are two obedient, willing and handy boys. We can only guess at their ages, but should think Jaeob was about 10 or 11 years of age. I fixed a little room for them, upstairs, directly above the kithen, and made a bed for them. Their outfit was made out of some of my worn-out clothes, and do very well as long as they will last. They eat at a table by themselves at one end of the kithen. They get fish, beans, some oat-meal and sometimes bread, etc., as happens to be left from our table. We had a letter from Sophie's father, saying he was very glad that his daughter is with us, and that if he does well with trading he will try to do something for her support. We are trying to teach her to do some house-work, but she is very trying as she seems to hold most obstinately to the idea that such work should not be required of her. She speaks English quite readily now; but has not yet been of any use at interpreting, for she does not understand the language of the natives here; because their dialect differs from that of the natives on the Yukon River. She can read and write a little, and gets along well in arithmetic, also takes a great interest in the Sunday-school and service, and we hope that some seed may fall into good soil and spring up in her heart, to bear fruit unto life eternal. Last Summer the deacon's wife of the Greek Church tried her best to get her away from us, and had she been successful, would undoubtedly have sold her into a life of the grossest immorality to the ever ready white men as she did her own daughters.

We were obliged to close the school on May 9; because the fishing season was here, and there is then no use in trying to keep school, as the children must go with dipnets and catch smelt, and string them up to dry. The women generally help, too. The men go egg-hunting. By the time Spring comes the natives are generally pretty

well starved, as their supply of dried fish gets very scant. For safety's sake, in Summer, when the salmon are caught, they often dig a large hole in the bank somewhere and fill it with fish just as they are caught, then they cover them up with ground, and leave them there till Spring, and when they open one of these holes it is best to keep at a safe distance. This is not to be confounded with their regular "fish holes," however, which they have here in the village, from which every now and then during the entire Winter fish are dug and eaten as a great delicacy. On some days the school-room smelled so strongly of these rotten fish which the children had eaten that it was almost impossible to endure it. I often got a severe headache, and was obliged to go out for fresh air.

We have seriously considered our work, as to the best way of carrying it on, in such a way as to successfully civilize, educate and christianize these poor people, for, if ever there was a people worthy of our sympathy, and that of Christian people all over our land, it is these Esquimaux. We have come to the conclusion that the only successful way to carry on our work, will be, to put up another building where the pupils can live together. This would in the first place enable us to keep them clean from vermin, for it is impossible, in spite of cleaning them ever so often to keep the school-room free from such a pest, when we have any day scholars. It does seem as though some children had as many little creepers, as they have hairs on their heads, and when they first come to school, it is nothing unusual to see the little wanderers exploring the books and slates, without annoying the student in the least. My wife and Sister Huber had a great deal of work in trying to keep these children clean during the past Winter. They would wash and dress them clean one day (which is not by any means a pleasant work) and then they go home for the night, and return in the morning nearly as dirty again as they were before; and what is more they do not know how to take care of the clothes which we give them and we could in this way not provide sufficient clothing for them. We have used up all the old clothing we could possibly spare of our own, even taking scraps out of the patch-bag and piecing them together. We were indeed truly grateful to hear through your letters that some cast-off clothes are on the way hither.

Then again, it will at the same time give a home to such pupils as come from other villages, as the plea occasionally is, that they have no place to stay. Besides it will protect the children from abuse, and hearing so much prejudiced conversation against the school. Furthermore, it will be the most effectual way of teaching them domestic habits of industry, and above all bringing them under the influence of the Gospel. This will of course make much more work and will require patience; but while I admit that the beginning may be small, I feel confident at the same time, that the Lord helping us, the results will in the end be good and very satisfactory to all concerned. I will make a plan for a building, and send it some-

time during the Summer to the Mission Board, for them to consider, and do with as they think best.

In regard to additional help, I would say that I think that one family stationed here is sufficient for the present; but think that perhaps the best, as well as cheapest way for increasing our force of workers would be to have one, or if at all possible two single persons come, for whom we could easily make room without much additional cost. If we therefore wish to carry on our work as proposed, a great deal of the work, after the building is up, and the scholars canvassed for, will naturally fall to the sisters, and as no native help to be depended upon can be had, this means much more than one would naturally suppose. We have several times already tried to teach native women to help with the washing, but as soon as they have been here often enough to begin to be of any use, they are taken away by the evil influence, which is ever working with untiring zeal. Sometimes even when we got help in the morning, some one would go directly to Nushagak to tell and before noon the Deaconess passes by to the village. Soon a child is sent with a message to the girl or woman working here, whereupon she then wants to go, and if persuaded to stay and finish, becomes sullen and obstinate, so that it is far wiser to give up first, instead of last. Several families have already been induced to move away from here, so as to be away from the temptation of coming here.

The Arctic Packing Company had a man staying here during the Winter to take care of the cannery buildings, etc., whose name is Louis Guinther. He attended our services regularly, and became deeply interested in all he heard. Through the grace of God he was led to see his need of a Saviour, and came to a saving knowledge of the truth as it is in Christ Jesus. He was confirmed on Sunday, April 22.

We can not as yet do anything in the way of telling these poor benighted souls of a Saviour's dying love; because we are in the first place unable to speak to them so as to be sufficiently understood, nor have we an interpreter. There is one man who can interpret a little, but he hardly knows enough of the English language to express our ideas, and he is besides closely related to the family of the Deacon of Nushagak. We can not, therefore, much as our hearts ache to do so, tell these people "The Old, Old Story." We first show them by our daily life, what Christianity means, for ignorant as they are of any religious ideas, as far as I can learn, they yet hold most devotedly to the Greek Church, of which they are, literally speaking, perfect slaves; nearly every hut has a picture of Alexander the Great, before which the natives bow and cross themselves. About the priest I will refrain from saying more than that he is a great drunkard, gambler, and a blind leader of the blind. He travels all over the country, and warns the people against our school; and is often so sadly intoxicated that he can not keep the appointed service, even after the natives have traveled for many miles, in order to attend. Yet he holds a great influence over these

poor deluded beings, who sometimes seem to be at a loss to know what to think about the present state of affairs. They sometimes seem to think their old priest is not just what he should be; but he has been amongst them so long a time and they can understand and talk freely with him, while we can not as yet understand more than sometimes what is absolutely necessary. But we continue to hope and pray that all the hindrances may be removed when "it seemeth Him best," and that the glorious light of the Gospel truth may then break every barrier down.

The Arctic Fishing Company had employed a bright young man for several seasons while they canned salmon here, and in order to help him to learn to speak English properly, and to elevate him in general, they offered to take him to San Francisco for the Winter, and to pay him \$20 a month for the time he should spend there. He was very anxious and glad to go, but as a faithful slave to his religion he must first ask permission of the priest who did not hesitate at all in giving him a decided "No," for an answer. So the young man remained here.

Although the experience of almost every day has brought us some annoyance, and discouragement, we are nevertheless determined to continue our work with unabated zeal and energy for the love of Christ, and in His name, the Lord helping us. A great deal of my time is devoted to the sick and suffering, and very often I can not attend to them as I should for want of time.

Not only the natives need attention, but also the white men, and Russians. I was several times called to Nushagak, and once late in the night, to attend to some very sick people. I was obliged to set a broken arm for a fisherman from the Cannery across the river on the day we received our mail. I have also extracted teeth and filled cavities for a white man from Nushagak. All such services are accepted by the Russians and natives as a matter of fact, sometimes not even receiving as much as thank you! By this means, however, the natives learn to place a great deal of confidence in us. The sisters, too, have had their share of work in this line, sometimes having a patient in the house day after day for poultices, etc.

Last Sunday evening we had a service in the school-house for the fishermen; the room was pretty well filled with white men and quite a number of natives came also and the house became so full that not all could get in. We will have another service next Sunday evening and on as many following Sundays as the men will be at liberty to come.

There is no opportunity to get mail from here to Bethel, after the snow and ice have gone in Spring, so I could not send your letter to Brother Kilbuck. We had two letters from Brother and Sister Kilbuck this Winter; one came in February and the other in April. In regard to communication between them and us, I must say it is rather uncertain except in the Fall. Sometime in August Bro. Kilbuck hires a native to bring us their mail, and by this man we can always send letters back

to Bethel. After that there are only bare chances, by natives who come from the Kuskokwim to Nushagak to trade, as they get a little better price for their skins here.

Our supplies sent us this Spring came by a fishing vessel of the Alaska Commercial Co., who built a new Cannery here this Spring. We have not got all the goods up from the vessel yet, and the steward of the vessel used up our half barrel of sugar through carelessness; but Mr. Clark said he would make it all right, if possible, when the *Dora* comes. They charged \$20 per ton, as you will see by the bill they sent you. Mr. Rohlff's will not send a second vessel this year, so we expect our other lot of supplies by the *Dora*.

Our list of supplies for next year we will send in Fall with the fishing vessel. I had Mr. Clark make out a bill for what we owe him, which is to be paid at the office of the Alaska Commercial Co. I will make a copy of the same and send it to you. That contains all the expenses which we have had since my last statement, with the exception of the coal, and a case of pilot bread from the Arctic Fishing Co., for which we have not yet received a bill.

With our school supplies sent us this Spring by Dr. Jackson, we received a very large, most beautiful flag, the gift of Mrs. Elliott Shepard, of New York City. Dr. Jackson writes that it may perhaps be possible for him to call in here to see us during the Summer, and we earnestly hope we may not be disappointed, for we are looking forward to his "probable" coming with intense pleasure.

Our children are well and very happy; they spend a great deal of time out-of-doors; in Winter shoveling snow, and being drawn about by the native children on the little sleds which we brought with us. During the Summer they delight in gathering flowers, baking mud-pies, etc., but often they are obliged to leave all their sport and seek protection from the tormenting mosquitoes. Marion has been wearing her braces ever since we are here, and they seem to help her very much indeed. The difficulty which last Fall we feared would cause trouble, I was able to fix after some experimenting, and, as far as we can now see, her limb will probably be all right again. She is quite lively and it does not annoy her very much, only sometimes when she gets real tired she complains of a little pain. Aunt Mary Huber is quite well, content and happy, and feels quite at home with us. She has proved just the person whom we need, and is greatly interested in the work.

I have written an account of the life of Mr. Louis Guinther, and if you see fit, can hand it over for publication to THE MORAVIAN, or *Der Brüder Botschafter*. This just reminds me that we have not received a *Botschafter* since we are here, and as we are still deeply interested in the German work of our Church at home, we miss it very much.

I see I have been very lengthy with my report; but as you requested me to be very detailed, I hope it may prove satisfactory. We all send our

kindest regards to you and the members of the Mission Board, and that God may bless you and us all is the fervent prayer of

Your affectionate brother,

F. E. WOLFF.

"CARMEL," ALASKA.

It may be of interest to our friends and readers of THE MORAVIAN to hear something about Mr. Louis Guinther, who, through the grace of God, was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth as it is in Christ Jesus.

The name of our Mission-station "Carmel" will probably be fixed upon your minds by this time, also its location at the mouth of the Nushagak River, which empties into British Bay in Behring Sea. From about the middle of June to the end of July, or early part of August this river, as well as many others, swarm with salmon. Consequently, there are four large salmon canneries at the mouth of the Nushagak River; three of them within sight of our house. The cannery buildings of the Arctic Fishing Company are near our Mission-station. This business brings from six to eight vessels here every season, also about two hundred white men and over three hundred Chinese—the former to catch and the latter to can the fish. Many of the white men are sailors, and have been picked up out of the saloons in San Francisco, where they usually spend their time when out of work. They are men accustomed to strong drink and profanity, and in general lead a most wretched life. You can therefore well imagine what kind of language one must often hear, when in the immediate neighborhood of one of these canneries, where some forty or fifty men are often together at work at a time. There are some men working here every Summer, who, as soon as they get back to San Francisco, and step off the vessel, go first of all to a saloon, and often within a week's time their entire Summer's wages (from April to October) are gone.

We would be glad to have these men come to our services on Sundays; but there is no Sunday, for them, except once in a while an evening. Before they leave San Francisco, at the Company's office where they are hired for the fishing season, they must sign a contract, that they will work on Sundays as well as any other time, also day and night if necessary, as a great deal of work must be accomplished in a very short time, for the salmon are here only from six to eight weeks, and before and after that time not a fish can be caught.

The fishing schooners leave here in the month of September. As soon as the last boat has left, everything is very quiet, which seems like the twilight of the long Winter night coming on.

The Fishing Company leave one, or at most two men, here to take care of their buildings; this Winter they had only one to stay—Mr. Louis Guinther. I embraced the first possible opportunity to go to see him, and told him how glad we were that he was going to stay here during the Winter, and invited him to come to see us as often as he could, and to make himself to feel at home with us, and especially to come to our ser-

vices on Sunday. He thanked me, and said he would, and so he did.

After he had attended our services several times and we had become acquainted with him, we spoke to him about Christian life and his soul's salvation. He said, "Well, I think all the punishment we will ever get, we get while we live here in this world. If we do wrong, we must suffer for it, in the way of misery, hardships, poverty, sickness," etc. This then, he thought, was the only wages of sin. Upon farther and closer questioning we found that he was utterly ignorant of the Scriptures, and that he was, upon the whole, a poor, neglected man. The Lord put it into his heart, however, to come to see us often and to listen eagerly with open heart and ears to the precious Word of God. He generally came one or two evenings during the week and on Sunday afternoons and evenings. We embraced these opportunities to read to him from the Bible as well as good books, and strove to press the importance of his soul's salvation home to him. The loving Saviour, who had followed him for so many days—yes, long years—began to open his heart and understanding, to let in a glimpse of the saving light. We gave him tracts and good reading-matter, also a Bible, which he eagerly read, and often spoke about their contents. Later on he opened his heart more fully, and told us what a wretched, wicked life he had led all his days, and how he desired to lead a different life, and become a Christian; but he repeatedly said he feared he was too wicked, the Lord would not have anything to do with him. We told him that the Lord rejected none; no matter how many or how great the sins might be, if they only come to Him with an earnest and sincere heart, and proved through the Scriptures to him that *all* are welcome, who truly desire to be forgiven. He felt deeply concerned, and often could not rest at night, and would then, sometimes, get up and walk along the bank of the river, feeling the great burden of his sins more than he could bear; but the Lord's hand was mightily upon him and his cold heart began to melt with the fire of love, and often when he heard some hymn sung or some special truth touched him in a sermon, tears would overflow his eyes, and stream down his cheeks. He saw now how merciful the Lord had been to him throughout life, and began to tell some of his history.

He was born in Memel, Prussia, August 14, 1842. His father died while he was quite young, and his mother being very poor, he was as quite a small boy cast out upon the world, to seek his own living as best he could, working a little here and there at such work as might be found by a little boy. At one time he got work in a ship-yard, where he was to watch the fire under a kettle, in which pitch was boiling. He did not mind his business properly, however, and allowed the pitch to run over, and in this way set the whole yard on fire. When he saw what had happened, he ran away and never went near the place again. After he had grown up to be a big boy, he went to sea, and from that time he was carried away from home and his life drifted into

that of a sailor. Many sailors have a most wretched and miserable life, and his lot fell in with these, shipping from one vessel to another, and going from place to place, he has been to many distant parts of the world, and some of his experiences at sea were most thrilling and wonderful. Surely, the Lord had been merciful and followed him from one land to another across the stormy seas, where sometimes even the angry waves, revealed the goodness and mercy of the Lord. He told us that upon five or six occasions the vessel in which he sailed was wrecked. On one occasion he and another man were the only ones saved. Another time when the vessel was wrecked, he and several others were the only ones who escaped in a most wonderful manner, which he can not understand or explain himself. The angry waves simply took him up and brought him to land. Again he was in a small schooner which in a storm foundered upon rocks not very far from shore. The heavy breakers were coming upon the little ship with great force and in a few minutes she would be broken into pieces. The captain quickly got into a small boat and told him to push it off as another wave would come and jump in. In a few seconds the wave came, he shoved off the boat and jumped in. In the act of pushing off they lost one of the oars; but before there was room for farther thought, the wave had carried them ashore on a steep, high rock, not even injuring their little boat. By this time the ship had sunk quite out of sight. More than once men were hurled right from his side into eternity, and he was in mercy saved. Once he was in a saloon drinking, when he became so intoxicated, that he lost entire control of himself, and was dropped through a trap-door in the floor into a small boat and hurried away with others into a whaler. They took him out to sea, and in this way compelled him to go to the Arctic Ocean to catch whale for little or no pay. The most remarkable instance in his life, however, was when he had been taken into a vessel in this same manner, and he was trying to escape. The vessel was lying far out in San Francisco Bay, where in spite of the strict guard, he managed to slip away, and jumped overboard in the night in the hope of being able to swim ashore although it was several miles. He swam for a long time directing his course by the lights. He began to realize, however, that he could never reach the shore in this way, as his strength would not hold out for so long a distance. Fortunately a small schooner sailed by, and he called as loud as he could twice before he was heard and received an answer. He begged them to save him; they could, however, not see him as the night was very dark; but he called to them and told them how to direct the vessel, and when she came around the second time he managed to catch hold of the stay-chains on the bow of the vessel, and that was the last he could remember. The sailors were obliged to use their utmost strength, in order to loosen his grasp from the chains. He remained unconscious for a long time. The captain treated him very kindly, and when he took him ashore, immediately found employment for him on a farm in California. He

now acknowledges that it was the merciful hand of God that saved him. We spend many a pleasant hour, talking together of the wonderful manner in which the Lord has led him.

He expressed a desire to be confirmed; so after giving him thorough catechetical and biblical instruction, he was confirmed on Sunday, April 22. Surely, "there is joy in the presence of the angels of the Lord over one sinner that repented," and "The poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel."

F. E. W.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., AUGUST 22, 1888.

VOLUNTEERS FOR ALASKA.—From the reports received from our missionaries in Alaska and spread in full before our readers in the last two issues of THE MORAVIAN, it is evident that those whom we have sent hope for reinforcements next year. Under the peculiar circumstances of the case, namely, the fact that if appointments are to be made they must be made not later than, say, December in order to give the new missionaries time to make proper preparation for the journey and long isolation from home and friends, and the additional fact that the present Provincial Board can hardly decide a question which properly belongs to the new Provincial Board, whether that Board consist of the present members or be differently constituted, THE MORAVIAN suggests that if any brethren and sisters, married couples or single men and women, feel moved by the Spirit of the Lord to offer themselves for the Lord's work in Alaska, they should let their willingness be made known to the Provincial Board. This is not an official call; for the new Board may decide to await the reports of another year's work. But it will be helpful, if the Board knows who are ready and willing to go.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., SEPTEMBER 12, 1888.

Contributions for the Alaska Missions Received from August 1, 1887, to August 1, 1888.

Berea	\$3 58	Oakland	18 19
Bethany.....	12 53	Osborne	75
Bethlehem	496 07	Palmyra	8 00
Canaan	71 48	Philadelphia, First..	25 00
Canal Dover.....	61 00	Philadelphia, Second..	26 67
Castleton Corners....	22 27	Philadelphia, Third..	6 43
Blairstown.....	4 44	Philadelphia, Fifth..	20 37
Ebenezer	10 00	Port Washington.....	4 75
Emmaus	11 00	Riverside	3 00
Ephraim	13 00	Schoeneck	4 55
Fort Howard.....	13 80	Sharon	24 29
Freedom	10 00	South Bethlehem.....	5 50
Fry's Valley	8 71	Sturgeon Bay.....	13 78
Gnadenhuetten	15 00	Utica	32 00
Goshen	60 00	Watertown	46 70
Gracechain	10 31	West Salem, English	11 62
Gracehill	33 96	West Salem, German	31 60
Greenbay	8 50	York	10 00
Harmony	8 08	Zoar	9 00
Hebron	6 00	Hector and Elim.....	5 00
Hope	102 83	Giffords	6 00
Hopedale	3 10	Roekfield	16 00
Ixonia	5 00	Friends in England	
Lake Mills.....	32 00	and on the Continent	416 38
Laketown	5 50	Ohio, Miss. Society...	50 00
Lancaster.....	142 50	Salem, N. C.....	105 00
Lebanon	28 83	New Fairfield Mission	10 00
Manassch.....	3 00	Bethania, N. C.....	2 00
Nazareth	106 85	Emmaus, West Indies	17 00
New Dorp	9 70	Sharon, West Indies	10 00
New York, English...	15 00	Scattering and anonymous	229 75
New York, German..	7 22		
Lititz.....	295 28		
Northfield	10 00		
			\$2891 83

LIST

OF PACKAGES AND BOXES FROM FRIENDS OF THE ALASKA MISSION SHIPPED BY THE COMMITTEE ON SUPPLIES TO BETHEL AND CARMEL, ALASKA.

Friends in Bethlehem.....	28 packages
Busy Workers, Bethlehem.....	1 package
Helping Hands, Bethlehem.....	1 "
Seventh Room, Young Ladies' Seminary...	1 package
Ladies' Sewing Society, Bethlehem.....	1 box
Friends in Nazareth and Bethlehem.....	1 "
Coopersburg, Sunday-school.....	2 packages
Nazareth	1 box and 1 package
New York German Mission.....	1 "
Bethabara, N. C.....	1 "
Hopedale.....	2 boxes
Newberry, Conn.....	1 package
Philadelphia, "X.".....	1 "
Lititz.....	1 "
Bath.....	1 "
Berthelsdorf, Germany.....	1 "

SUMMARY

OF THE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE ALASKA MISSION DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR FROM AUGUST 1, 1887, TO AUGUST 1, 1888.

Receipts.

Collections and Donations.....	\$2891 83
Miscellaneous Receipts.....	139 68
United States for Bethel School.....	300 00
 Total	\$3331 51

Expenditures.

For Bethel, Kuskokwim.....	\$1613 98
For Carmel, Nushagak.....	1212 55
For General Expenses.....	65 65
 Total	\$2892 18
Surplus to credit of new account.....	439 33
 Total	\$3331 51

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Journal of the Missionaries at Bethel.

BY SISTER E. M. KILBUCK.

August 11, 1887.—Since our August mail left us, we have been very busy, and scarcely find time even to write our journals or read the papers that came. So much pressing work lies before us this Fall, that as long as the sun shines, we are loathe to leave off working, although it often carries us well into the night. The Summer, until August, has been dry, and splendid weather for working, but even at this late date no workmen have arrived and the prospects for getting another house built this season are very doubtful.

We have put forth every effort to at least get a good supply of building logs on hand, but so far it has been with little success. As Bro. Kilbuek is alone he must depend on the natives for logs, and when they do bring a few they are small and only fit for firewood. There is plenty of good wood this year, but it lies pretty high on the beach. One man can not get it and two will hardly try; for each one suspects the other of shirking the most work and yet claiming the most pay. When two do bring a small raft it is always very difficult to settle their claims satisfactorily. We daily look for Proeopi, one of the builders that worked for us last year. He will possibly bring a good raft and, commence work at the house. Yet one man can accomplish very little this Fall.

Bro. Kilbuek is kept very busy looking after the fishing, repairing both houses for Winter and providing food and fuel for the year to come. Wood we already have, and fish are more plentiful than we at first thought. As soon as we are moved into the little school-house of last year,

Bro. Kilbuek will make a trip or two for the purpose of getting boys for the school.

During the starvation period this Spring a great many people were obliged to eat any and every thing that would sustain life. In consequence of taking so much vile stuff into their systems they now are suffering from blood diseases, mostly boils. Last week one party came to us with several very helpless patients. Indeed the whole party had boils, but only two were very badly off. We saw about forty boils in all their different stages and scattered over nearly every part of the body. Most of them, however, were already healing.

To those that were yet unhealed we began at once to apply the salve sent to Bro. Kilbuek in the Spring by Z. T. Morbek, of Northfield, Minn., and in these severe tests upon its virtue have found it to be *no less than wonderful*. Surely it is a blessing to them and to us. I never saw any thing

heal deep openings in so short a time in all my life. Those that came to our door, limping and creeping, went away in three days' time all well and strong. Their joy was unbounded and they could not thank us often enough. They offered to give us a sleigh load of dried fish, but said we must come for them for their dog-teams had died of starvation in the Spring.

In doing their trading at the "post" before they left, some difficulty arose and Bro. Kilbuck was sent for without any explanation and after he had been gone for some time, I heard a report that two men were "bleeding plenty," and that one was the trader. Bro. Kilbuck still staying alarmed me very much, but I found when he came home that there had only been a scratch battle with bloody faces, and that he had stayed during the rest of the trading to insure peace. I foolishly imagined he might have been hurt, and I hope the feeling I had during those three hours will never come to me again. They have now gone and very few people come around; it seems lonely sometimes.

The weather all this month has been stormy with a good deal of rain. Berry-harvest is at hand now and the little school boys are very faithful at picking berries for me. It is a hard task, too, to tramp over the soft marshy, tundra with the mosquitoes flying in swarms around them, yet they never complain and they are very careful also to be clean and particular in gathering them. This is not the case with strangers. The salmon berries ripen the first two weeks in August; the huckleberries from the second week in August until the second week in September; the currants come the last week in August and first of September—while the raspberries and gooseberries ripen the second and third weeks in August. The cranberries ripen in September. The fruit we put up fresh is much nicer than any we can buy. This is the first year we have had an abundance of berries.

We hope some time to send samples of all our berries to you in alcohol. I am experimenting this year and if they should keep pretty well I may send them down next Spring. My greatest difficulty is to find small bottles with large enough necks. I only have one quart of alcohol.

We also intend sending a mastodon tusk; which was given to us last week by Mr. Lind. He said he thought we might wish to place it in a museum or with a collection of Alaska curiosities. This tusk was found by a native of Oghavigamute with some loose dirt that had fallen from the side of a steep mountain. Quite a piece is broken off from the end of the tusk, but otherwise it is well preserved. Around the curve it measures $65\frac{1}{2}$ inches, across the curve it measures 58 inches, around the base it measures $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches and where it is broken off at the end it measures $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches. It is of a dark earth color and weighs 23 pounds. A tooth was found at the same time, but we are not sure we can get it. Mr. Lind paid a cup of tea and one of sugar for the tusk. He says he has seen the natives saw up such tusks for net-sinkers.

I will now mention some of my work. Just now it is making clothing for the school. The boys that are here have worn their clothes nearly one year. With constant mending and patching I hope to make their old clothes last until school begins in September. They wear their outgrown and mended clothing without once complaining and look with anticipation and happy faces at the stacks of ready-made new clothes. They are independent and jolly boys; yet there are times when they crave a mother's interest and care. Scarcely an hour passes but one comes to me for this, another for that, and yet another to tell me of some little unimportant joy or sorrow. I think they know I love them; for I have only to ask for any thing once and any or all are ready to do it. When Bro. Kilbuck is gone, if but for an hour or two, they soon gather near me and begin to ask "when will he come? will he come soon? do you think he will stay long? did he say when he would come? I wonder when he will come?" and, when some one comes in and says he is coming they say "thank you," or, rather, "we are thankful, we are thankful," and all flock around him as though he had been gone a month. Some one is sure to say "Well, tell us something," or, "Is all well?" He must then tell them something, to satisfy them. Indeed it is a great comfort to have the children so confiding and free. We often wonder how our time would pass if we were without them. They cheer many long hours and evenings.

Our health is of the best and we are in good spirits and feel cheerful about the future. We daily experience the rich blessings of our heavenly Father and are thus content. Katie, the little blessing, is quite well again and begins to talk a great deal although she don't pretend to talk English. She is a great pet with all the people.

August 17.—The weather still continues to be rainy and stormy. The days are now growing short very fast and after nine o'clock in the evening we are obliged to have a light. The wintry days are not far away; even now a fire is comfortable all day when it rains. The prairies have a dull Autumn-like appearance; the geese are slowly coming from the North, mosquitoes are nearly all gone and the people of the upper river are leaving their villages to trap furs in the mountains. We have cared for a great many boils this week. One party came from the Yukon River; they were of the Ingalik tribe and did not look so meek and docile as the people of this river. They, however, were very respectful and talked a great deal. They asked Bro. Kilbuck to be their "Priest" as well as the priest on this river. They said they did not care much for the Greek Priest; but they all wished to belong to our Church and be our "people." They left the next day. We were sorry that we could not talk more to them. The little of the native language which we can talk, they could not understand; so one of the school-boys, also an Ingalik, did the interpreting for us. The two languages are very different.

Bidarra parties from the lower river and coast are numerous. They either come with a load of oil to trade or are in search of wood to make traps and dishes. They stay around for about a week, and if the trader does not offer them enough for their oil they go on up the river to get a better price of the natives and generally take less than they were offered at the "post" in order to sell it at all. During their stay here the old women came to us to trade. From one to three come with each bidarra, and each one shares out of the provision-pile a small armful of dried fish, some add a grass mat or two and others a grass basket. Then they go to Bro. Kilbuck and say they want to trade. They tell him to hurry for they must be going, they scream and talk, and scold; and shake the fist at him; then they roll a big black quid out of their mouth and say "that is what they want." Then they start for the house and if he does not follow they go back and he is at the mercy of their tongues again. Whatever work he is at, he gladly leaves, and gets his trading articles out in the yard—tobacco, needles, thimbles, soap, combs, buttons, etc. They then spread out the fish as separately as possible to make a big show and are always dissatisfied with the pay. They beg him to add "just one chew" to the pay and then they will go. When at length the trading is at an end and he goes back to his work they sit near by and enjoy a chew of tobacco and watch him work for hours. Their hurry is all over when the trading is done. It is worth a good deal to witness one such performance; but

it grows old and wearisome before the season ends. Mr. Lind is off on a trip just now and we miss him; for he comes over quite often when he is at home.

Many natives have been around lately. Last Sunday the house was full of strangers.

August 23.—Alexi, our working man, is off on a hunting trip. He went over near the mouth of the Yukon River, where deer are said to be plentiful. The meat will not keep to bring home. The sinews and skins were the object of his trip. The fur clothing is all sewed with thread made of the deer sinews. The skins are used for boots, parka collars and for bedding. The white part is used to trim the parkas with.

The one fish trap we have down is doing well. Last week they got from it in one day enough salmon to salt a barrel of the meat; and besides this there were about fifty whitefish in the trap. Augustus looks after the trap each day at low tide. He is very faithful, we never need worry about his work.

Alexi's father is here making us another fish-trap and some bidarka paddles. He was pretty sick last week one day with severe pain in his side. He thought he was going to die and became very much frightened. I account for his anxiety in this way. He with a party of natives have chased and killed a white whale which when dead floated in the water with its belly to the sun. They believe this to be a sure sign of death to one of the party in the near future. No doubt he thought of it then, for he was taken sick very

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suddenly. He is quite well now and busy all the time. Several bidarras are here again from the coast. Bro. Kilbuck is having the men roll logs up the bank for us. We hardly expected to collect such a force for log rolling any more this Fall. Bro. Kilbuck is helping them so as to get all the rolling done if possible. The bidarras lie at anchor out in the channel and the old women as usual are tagging around after Bro. Kilbuck, wanting to trade. Just now they are sitting near the log heap with their precious armful of fish in sight. As soon as Bro. Kilbuck comes up the bank they will be after him again. They have made him nearly wild this last week.

The weather is rainy and stormy still. Our garden on the island is a complete failure this year. It has not produced a single mess of anything.

August 26.—On Wednesday Procopi and family arrived, but no logs and no fish. We had expected him to bring with him the dried fish Mr. Sipary has bought for us, but he only brought us word to send for the fish. We are greatly perplexed as to how we are to get them.

The father of one of the school-boys sent to us to-day to borrow a saw. His child is sick and not expected to live. He wants to saw boards for a coffin. Mr. Lind lent him a saw and plane, as we were using ours.

August 27.—Mr. Lind arrived from his trip to Kolmakoffsky, with the welcome news that our fish was on its way down the river. He knew how hard it was to send for them, so had them put on the raft with some he had bought. His own working men will bring them down. This is a great relief to us, for we could not get any one to go after them.

I do not think any one of our friends know how kind he has always been to us and the real, substantial help he has been in establishing this Mission. He has kindly spared our making many mistakes. His long experience in this country is worth a good deal and he is really interested in us and our work and only through kindness does say "do this" or "do that." He is more like one of our party than a stranger.

Procopi sharpened the building tools yesterday and Bro. Kilbuck, with the help of seven men carried logs to the building place, and then laid the foundation of the house. All is ready for work now. We feel more cheerful now that some real work is being started. The Summer has been very discouraging. Days and weeks passed by with so little accomplished. It may go better now; at least we hope so.

Our spare time is spent in planning and calculating for the school. Food and clothing, cooking, washing and ironing, mending, baking, and dividing off the victuals, all must be seen to by one of us if full satisfaction is to be had. All of it is such "little work," but we are kept very busy. We work, and hope, and pray. We look back over the days and weeks to see what seems very little accomplished in them; then, we hope and pray, and work on. Oh, may God give us the courage and strength to work on and the faith that shall not fail us even to the end.

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September 10.—Again the Lord has been very near to us. Katie has been pretty sick for over a week, but is nearly well again. We also have a hearty, sound, little son, born August 30. Procopi has been laid up with a boil; is better now and at work again. We have another man helping him at the building; still it goes very slowly for it rains nearly every day. School will open on September 12. Bro. Kilbuck has not been able to go after any boys yet. Indeed it is very difficult to get them to any number to come from any place. The priest on the Yukon River influences them a good deal, telling them we will only tell and teach them lies. Some of our own village refuse to come.

The raft with the fish arrived last week and all is now safely stored away. We got 2000 dried fish. With frozen fish from the tundra this will last very well for both boys and the team.

Yesterday the log-rolling was all finished. Over forty-five natives were here that afternoon. Bro. Kilbuck kept the men busy, while I kept poultices, plasters, medicine chest and doctor books handy, and cared for all the sick that came for treatment. The two men we sent out deer-hunting have arrived. One got two and the other three deer.

Last Sunday the school-boys got their new clothing. They were very proud of them, hardly daring to sit down or lie down for fear of wrinkling them. They soon forgot, however, and now they are not so particular any more. They are genuine boys. How could they be so careful very long?

September 12.—School opened this morning and I am teaching and will continue to do so until the out-door work is all done and Bro. K. can take my place. The children are pretty good. Katie sleeps most of the time; yet I have my hands very full and am obliged to let my housework go undone.

One of the workmen had the misfortune to cut his foot to-day and will be laid up for some time. Alexis, Augustus and Ivan took the scow and went to the warehouse after the remainder of our lumber, the two bureaus and the sled that came up this year.

September 19.—Over forty natives were here yesterday. At the morning service our baby was baptized and was named William Henry. Mr. Lind held him for baptism. We named him after his Grandfather Kilbuck. In the afternoon the boys returned from the warehouse. They were gone only seven days and had no trouble in managing the scow. They brought a bag of mail sent from Nusagak by Bro. Wolff. Some natives from this river who had visited Nusagak brought it up. It is needless to say that this was a pleasant surprise. Our messenger had not yet arrived when this mail left Nusagak.

We received five letters besides those sent from Bro. Wolff, San Francisco and other papers, and some packages sent to us from the East with Bro. Wolff's party when they came up in the Spring. The things had gotten wet, yet nothing was materially damaged. Our home letters were especially good, and I had a hard battle not to be very

homesick for a day or so.

School goes on very nicely, yet I find it a pretty heavy task with both my babies to care for. I am always glad for the rest that evening brings. Bro. K. works faithfully out of doors from morning until night in order to relieve me of the teaching as soon as possible.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., SEPTEMBER 19, 1888.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Journal of the Missionaries at Bethel.

BY SISTER E. M. KILBUCK.

[CONCLUDED.]

September 21.—Alexis, Augustus and Ivan have gone up the river after a raft of firewood. The "old man," Alexis's father, went to his own village for the Winter, after finishing the other fish trap.

October 1.—The building is at a stand-still, as it has been raining or snowing every day this week. The mail has not yet arrived, and many times in the day we find ourselves at the west window watching for some signs of a kyack. A kyack now would almost surely be the mail, for no one else would travel so late on the river.

When the messenger left us Mr. Lind said: "Now he's off, and God be with him." This, too, has been our prayer since he is gone. God alone can bring him back from the dangerous trip along the rocky coast. We always feel anxious for any one on the waters in the Fall. It is very dangerous, and almost impossible for us to get any one to go. We are getting impatient as the time nears for his return. It means *so much* to us to get mail. Some one must be sick or the mail is here now, for I see Mr. Lind coming, and he is running.

Evening.—I was right; for as soon as I ran out to tell Bro. K., I saw Mr. Lind point towards the bank. We both hurried to the beach and, sure enough, there was the mail. Three kyacks had arrived, one our messenger's and another belonging to one who helped him carry the many parcels part of the way; the other was only a stranger coming up the river.

Mr. Lind aided Bro K., in carrying the packages to the house, and with great interest we began to look for the letters, and when they were found we looked for news from Bro. Weinland and family. Above everything else we cared to hear from them this Fall and how they arrived at San Francisco with dear little Bessie, and if they were all well. News came from them up to July 7, but after that letters were either missent or mislaid, for a package was received from them after they had reached San Francisco, and we feel sure that they also sent letters. We learned from Sister Wolff's letter that they had seen a notice in THE MORAVIAN of their safe arrival in San Francisco, but had received nothing more in the way of news from them. We were very dis-

appointed, and even yet we look amongst every package again and again for letters.

Letters from Bro. and Sister Wolff were especially cheering. We longed to visit them when we were reading the letters instead of hearing written news. They, like we, are too busy to write all the little particulars in a letter. We hope to hear from them again in the Winter; yet, unless a special messenger be sent or an accidental native should go to Nushagak, we are not likely to hear from them for a whole year from now. In this way we are more divided than with our friends in the States. From them we can hear twice in the year.

Very few people remain on the river any longer. They have gone to the Winter villages, where they can trap for furs. One old woman who was trapping squirrels in the mountains has been lost. Her canoe and furs have been found, but she has never been traced. She may have sickened and died or became insane and jumped into the water, as they sometimes do. Another, even more pitiable incident, occurred about one week ago, and not far from here. Some one tied a helpless little child of about two years down to the water's edge at low tide. Its cries attracted the attention of a passer-by, who found the water already nearly up to its neck. The man took it to his home and took good care of it. It was recognized as a Ne- poskiogamute child, whose mother had died, the father leaving it in the care of an old woman at Mumtrekhlagamute. The child is sickly and doubtless was too much of a care for her. The only surprise the people have about it is that any one should want to drown or kill a boy; their girls are often killed, but seldom a boy.

October 10.—The school is still small. It is a source of much worriment to us that we are not able to get more scholars this Fall. A letter from Mr. Sipary to-day tells us that three miners from the Yukon are with him and will stay all Winter. They have about \$500 in gold dust.

October 17.—With grateful, thankful hearts to God we pick up the threads of our work again, after a pause of five of the saddest days we have ever known. God has given back the life of our little girl when we felt sure no human being could have rescued her from the grave. She is still very low, and with anxiety we watch every breath; though we are almost worn out. She recognized us both to-day, and seems to be no worse to-night. The carpenters have not worked. They said their own child would not make them feel worse if it were so sick. They sit around waiting anxiously for some word of hope, and when several times we thought she was leaving this world they asked us to try one more thing. They then offered to get a "Shamman" to come and do for her what he could, but were not offended when we told them "No." To-night they made and drank tea for the first time since she was sick. It has been a great comfort to have so many sympathizing friends around us. Although we could not trust her in their care, they did all they possibly could for us and for her.

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October 25.—Another week is gone and the little one is still improving slowly. She sat alone to-day and laughed a little for the first time since she is sick. She only weighs 18 pounds now. We have been moving slowly, but now Bro. Kilbuck is taken sick with dysentery and we cannot arrange things until he is about again. He has kept up the school until to-day, but I fear it was too much for him.

Katie is very fretful, yet with joy we care for her and watch her gaining strength day by day. The Lord has strengthened us for the extra strain until now and although we almost faint at times He is at hand and gives us new strength and grace. "His mercies never fail."

October 27.—Brother Kilbuck has been very sick, but is a little better to-day. He is very weak and looks pale. Katie is improving very slowly. I am well, but much worn.

A little boy came to us and asked to stay and go to school. He is an orphan and a brother to one of the boys we have. We will keep him.

November 8.—We call the new boy David. He is a nice child. Last week an Ekrushka was held at the village near by, that is at the "post." Presents were exchanged and a general time of feasting, the object being merely to create a friendly feeling between all parties and have a good time.

They play it this way. They ask the presents of each other. First, the women asked for what presents they wanted of the men; then the men of the women. The women came together, got a long stick, tied strings to it at intervals of about an inch, then passed it around to each woman, who tied something, anything to the end of one of the strings and named what she wanted. The leader took particular note of what she said and the string she tied to. When all the women had asked for something the leaders took the stick to the men and told them what each string called for and whom it belonged to. Each man then took off one or more of the strings and got as nearly as he could what was asked for. When all have their presents ready they meet, and the women also come together. As soon as all have arrived at the place of meeting they begin to sing and dance and present their gifts, with a dish of something to eat along with it. If they are able they give more than was asked of them; if not, it is never noticed. When all is over, the men in like manner ask presents of the women. We did not attend, but the "stick" was sent to us in our turn and we received quite a number of presents.

Different ones asked of me mittens, needles, a needle case, a pie, a little sugar, etc., etc. Only *little things* were asked. We received of the natives grass socks, boots, fish and game. Our nicest presents came from Mr. Lind. They were some extra fine pieces of fur clothing and a good skin-knife. Every one looks so happy it would seem that all old grudges and debts were forgotten and forgiven.

We now have pretty cold weather, 20 and 25 degrees below zero. The river froze over on October 29. Bro. Kilbuck is about well again and

teaches the school. I was also taken with the same disease a week ago from to-day, but am nearly well again.

November 20.—One of the miners came down from Kolmakoffsky and will stay with Mr. Lind. He intends going to Nushagak in the Spring. Gold on the Yukon is plentiful, but the Summer is too short to make much. It lies so deep under the frozen surface.

I will stop for this evening. Bro. Kilbuck is at home and I only have his company after nine o'clock at night and at meal times in the day. In the evening the workingmen, traveling natives and the school boys are all together, and he holds a kind of Sunday-school conversation or tells them Bible stories. Their ceaseless song is: "Tell us something."

There is a good deal of sickness. We give out medicine nearly every day.

November 25.—Warm and raining, very little snow left. The ice on the river is cracking. Yesterday we celebrated Thanksgiving Day. Mr. Lind and Mr. Kearny were here in the evening. All day we were busy in mind recalling the many occasions for thankfulness during the past year. Each sorrow has proved a blessing and each trial a source of strength.

December 8.—The ice on the river is fine and smooth. We have some splendid rides now.

We are all well once more and Katie walks now. Another boy is added to our school, also a volunteer. We are now preparing for Christmas by drilling the children in singing. I am preparing decorations for the tree and making some presents. Each boy gets a needle case and new cap. I now have fourteen made. Still much sickness. We learn that pneumonia rages on the Yukon river in epidemic form and many are dying.

December 22.—School closed to-day for one week. Bro. Kilbuck will be at home now more than usual, for which we are all now very glad. We havn't had much of a home this year. I've been alone most of the time.

We are all ready for Christmas now except putting up and decorating the tree. We expect a large crowd.

December 27.—Christmas is passed and our celebration was a success. The natives began to arrive from up and down the river on Wednesday and Friday before Christmas. By Saturday the house and yard were full of people. All Saturday we were preparing for the evening service, which began at 4 o'clock, or as soon as we lit the lamps. About seventy people were present. The programme was as follows:

1. Hymn, by the school, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."
2. Prayer.
3. Address. "Story of Christ's birth," and accompanying suggestions and thoughts.
4. Song. "Softly the Night is Sleeping." First verse sung by three little girls and two little boys. Chorus by all. Second verse by school.
5. Hymn. "Joy to the World the Lord is Come."

6. Drawing the curtain from in front of the tree.

7. Distribution of gifts.

8. Distribution of candles to the little children.

9. Doxology. "Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow."

10. Benediction.

To any one in the East it would have seemed very plain and insignificant, but to us it was more than we looked for, and to the natives more than they ever dreamed of. To be sure the best we could do was very little, but it was enough to rejoice the hearts of many. It is needless to say that we were happy in the happiness of all around us.

Christmas day they had a feast. Mr. Lind joined in giving them bread, tea, sugar, and soup thickened with rice or flour. To them it was grand, and they told us time and again how well pleased they were.

Until they left they gave Bro. Kilbuck no peace at all. They said they had never heard so much about Christ's birth, and they begged him to talk each evening and whenever they were gathered together. They also said they wanted churches to worship in and would gladly attend church.

January 2, 1888.—A happy and blessed New Year to you all, indeed it has been so for us. Bro. Kilbuck has been at home all week, and I think I can truly say we have been perfectly happy. We miss him so much when he is gone all day long and evenings too. His eyes have been very sore and prevented his holding service on New Year Eve and New Year Day. His eyes are seldom quite well.

January 8.—Bro. Kilbuck's eyes are well again, but both Katie and I have been sick. I came near having diphtheria, was pretty sick for several days, and am not well yet.

There are times when we sorely feel the need of companions in our work, for now if we are very much disabled we must give up part or all of the work, and if we are only sick enough to make us miserable, we must keep on.

January 18.—The people of Kikichtogamute have been asking for a church, and Bro. Kilbuck has promised to visit them and make some arrangements about getting logs and building one at that village during the coming Summer. Pneumonia is traveling toward us and is very severe. I fear it will reach us by Spring. One death in our neighborhood lately, that of a little child. The natives are traveling lively. We have visitors every day. Food is very plentiful everywhere, and in consequence the natives are all happy.

January 25.—As soon as Pinockamute heard that Kikichtogamute was to have a church they sent us word that they also wanted one and were willing to help build one at their village on the big lake back over the tundra.

The wood must all be brought from up the river and taken around to their village by way of a little creek leading from the lake to the river.

Bro. Kilbuck now teaches all day Wednesday and this leaves Saturday all free. He intends to visit these villages soon.

January 28.—In spite of 30 degrees below zero Brother Kilbuck started over the tundra to visit Pinochamute this morning. To-night he will talk over the plans and possibilities of erecting a chapel there; in the morning he will hold service and then come home in time to hold an evening service here at home. The village is about 25 miles northwest of us and numbers about fifty souls in all.

My health is good now and so is Katie's, but baby is not at all well. I think he is only teething. Bro. Kilbuck and I were weighed some time ago. Brother Kilbuck has lost fourteen pounds in the last year and I weigh almost twenty-five pounds less than I did when we landed.

February 3.—Baby has been pretty sick for a week but seems to be improving now. Bro. Kilbuck and I both have been about sick with throat trouble. To-day we are somewhat better. It seems we are never all well at once this year. We never had so much sickness. It is very wearing, indeed; yet we have great cause for thankfulness to God, for He has directed us in caring for the sick each time and we have no need to be gloomy. One is so apt to yield to a tired, worn-out body and get discouraged at such times. As I write one of the school boys lies on the lounge, where he has been for several days. He is suffering from a severe attack of pleurisy and we are much concerned lest it turn into pneumonia. He is better to-night, and we hope and pray for the best.

Bro. Kilbuck's trip to the village on the lake was a pretty cold one, but only his nose and lips were frozen; the trip otherwise was pleasant. Every one in the village was ready to aid all they could in collecting the necessary material and putting up a church. They said "they wanted him to be their priest. They did not like the other (Greek) priest. He told them not to steal and lie, yet he did these things himself;" and they also objected to pay him furs when he was taking up a collection for building purposes. They never see anything for what they give.

When Bro. Kilbuck returned he brought two more boys for the school.

February 6. — Last Saturday Bro. Kilbuck

started up the river, visiting Quichtlamute that day, holding service in the evening, and as the people of this village also have asked for a church that was discussed before retiring. They are very anxious to have a church at their own village, and if Bro. Kilbuck is too busy to oversee the building of one this year they are willing to wait another year.

At Kikichtogamute he got very little satisfaction, as they were in the midst of a practice for their masquerade ball. He will visit them again. While he was gone Eddie, the sick boy, has been much worse.

The natives here heard a noise of some one crying and could not account for it, so they felt sure he had been sent for by a spirit and came in immediately and told him. He was so frightened I feared he would grow worse. I told them to keep still about it, but they sat in the room and kept

talking to him about it. Finally I chased them all out and told him to try to sleep, but he was too worried to rest. At last I allowed his aunt to sit beside him after she promised not to refer to the "noise" again. She told him I said "everything was in his favor if he could sleep and that no spirit was around, but maybe I lied." He soon asked me if he dare sleep, and when he had eaten something he slept most of the time. The morning found him better, and now he is nearly well again. Katie is feverish and fretful to-day and I must stop and care for her now.

February 7.—We have an old "Shamman" living at the "post" who is constantly working against us. He refuses to attend services and says no good will come of any who follow our teachings. He has taken a second wife lately and Bro. Kilbuck has before him the unpleasant task of reproofing him for it.

February 16.—On Saturday, the 11th, Bro. Kilbuck revisited Kikichtogamute and came home the following day with a blinding snow storm right in his face. It began storming after they had started for home. They were obliged to follow the sleigh and trust to the dogs to bring them home. When they arrived I did not hear the dogs, although they howled at the very door, so strong the wind was blowing. We did not look for him at all. While gone he held one service, made arrangements for building a chapel and cared for many that were sick. The people were very willing to aid in building a church, yet they warn Bro. Kilbuck that unless he has a "boss" there it will not get done. He hopes now that he will be able to talk fairly well and then travel nearly constantly this coming year over a regular circuit, holding services at the different villages.

February 29.—The weather is warm and much sickness every where. Bro. Kilbuck does little else than teach the school and give out medicine. Most of the patients are too far away to visit. Pneumonia has reached our vicinity at last. Several deaths already. What lies in the future for us we do not know. God be with us!

March 5.—Pneumonia very bad. Death reports nearly every time any one arrives from a distance. We have been able to bring through all right the few near us who have contracted the disease. Mr. Kearny, the miner that stays with Mr. Lind this Winter, is preparing to start to Nushagak soon and by him we will send long letters to Bro. Wolff's party.

The "Shamman" that had taken a second wife told Bro. Kilbuck when he talked to him that he would give up both wives, and, wanted to leave off "shammaning," but the people came for him and he was obliged to go. When Bro. Kilbuck had gone he told both his women to have their traveling boats ready and they would all leave some night. He was going to go where he could live in happiness and be bothered by no one. He says if Bro. Kilbuck kills him he won't leave either wife; moreover, he intends to "shamman" him and prejudice all the people against him.

Pneumonia is spending itself on the people of the lower river. Mr. Lind's trader from below reports 55 deaths in nine days. Near us it is not so bad.

We ourselves are all well once more. The men are at work sawing boards.

April 3.—We have great cause for new courage in our work and for thankfulness to God for His many blessings.

During the well-attended services of the Passion week we were pleased to see a great interest being taken. Bro. Kilbuek held one and sometimes two services a day, telling the story of Christ's love as fully as he was able in their own language. They said they never heard so much about the love of God before. They asked him to repeat, and to tell them all he knew. Before the week was gone many were inquiring of the better way and said they would try to follow the teachings of God if they only knew how. Indeed it was touching to hear them in their simple childlike manner, ask to be led in the paths of right. It was then that the few words we know of their language seemed *far too few*, for, we would have made plain the way if it had been at all in our power. We did what we could but felt our great helplessness.

At early morning service on Easter Day about forty natives were present and while standing around the grave of Bro. Torgersen they heard with joy the resurrection story of Christ. Communion service in the afternoon was held with an attendance of near fifty, and had we thought proper, many would have liked to partake of the Lord's Supper. Bro. Kilbuek said he firmly believed some of them were in earnest; yet, he thought better to wait a while, and those who in the Summer yet wished to live conscientiously would have proved it by that time in their manner of living. Heretofore they have had little idea of living better lives. When once they were admitted as members to the Greek Church all that was required was to be baptized, get a name and remember the name. They then were admitted as communicant members of the church. Has not God richly blessed us in this first fruit of our work?

We sing an endless song of praise to Him. Our hearts are filled with joy and we long to be able to send the news to our dear friends whose hearts will leap with joy when they hear these glad words from the new Mission in Alaska. The Eskimos of the Kuskokwim turning from their sins and seeking the new way which leads to life everlasting, to joy and peace.

The health of the people in general is much better, for which we are very thankful. We now have heard of eighty deaths in our vicinity, yet by far the greater number have been down the river. Only a few deaths were near by.

The old "Shamman" has not been able to "leave in the night" as he expected. He has been very sick and was obliged to send to us for medicine after his "shamming" failed to cure. He often gets medicine of us but always tries to

cure himself first as get a brother "shamman" to do it for him. His one wife has left him but he says he will get her again when he is well. We find by inquiring that many men have two wives and some have three.

April 9.—It has been very cold again for so late in the Spring. The last three nights 9, 28 and 32 degrees below zero. To-day it is warmer and the clouds have a Spring-like look. There is still some sickness and one more death. Letters arrived from Bro. Wolff's party at Carmel on the 7th. Indeed we feel grieved for them. They are being sorely tried by the Greek priest of that place and his wicked followers. He and the priest on the Yukon River work together against us here and harm us all they can; yet it is not nearly as trying as they have it with a daily influence against them and their work.

April 21.—Our hired men were out some time ago and killed a couple of deer. Mr. Lind's men have also killed four or five.

Alexi and Mattie have left us. We were obliged to part with them. She was a good help for me with my house work, but her husband made himself disagreeable in so many ways and was inclined to be underhanded. We will get others in their place as soon as we can. I naturally dread the task of teaching another woman to work. He too was a splendid workman and Bro. Kilbuek misses him already. I have no doubt that he was sorry before he left. When he was about to say good-bye he cried like a child.

Bro. Kilbuek has a very bad cold and was unable to teach school several days, but is better again.

April 28.—The geese arrived on the morning of the 26th; school naturally closed and all was rejoicing. Spring is here when the geese come and now will be a busy time preparing for the trip to the warehouse, getting fishing nets and boats in order and doing the writing and house cleaning. The weather vane points to the northwest all month as though it were nailed. Weather in consequence is cold. The nights of the 23d, 24th, 25th and 26th the thermometer registered 3, 4, 3 and 2 degrees below zero respectively.

May 15.—At last the wind has turned and is blowing from the East. We have been having cold snow storms this last week. East wind will bring rain before long.

The boys have been out with the guns and had a man to aid in the shooting. One day they brought home 48 geese and one swan; the second day after two of them brought home 101 geese, two swans and three ducks. In all we have near 275 geese. Most of them are hung up to dry. I now have feathers for another bed and splendid down for one large cover.

Bro. Kilbuek is trying to make the frame house a little warmer by taking off the felting paper from the inside and driving it into the seams of the inner sheeting. It makes it nearly air tight. I think it must be warmer. Over this we have pasted several layers of newspaper and will stretch muslin over this and paper with wall

paper. The garret floor was taken up and paper pasted down on the ceiling boards in three layers and then the floor replaced. Last Winter Bethel was a very cold place, but it will be better next year, I am sure.

Procopi and another man are hewing logs for finishing the large log house.

May 22.—The river is clear of ice and the waves are dashing high under the force of a heavy southwest wind. The water is very high again, just about as it was last year. The ice broke up on the 20th and left on the 21st. There were no great sights this year. In jamming it only crushed up where as it usually piles up or throws single pieces up on end. We call it Summer now.

June 8.—We are now all in camp at the warehouse. We left home on the 5th and arrived here yesterday, the 7th. Early this morning the vessel was sighted and is riding at anchor out in the bay. A messenger will go out to her with the ebb tide and report to us with the flood tide tonight. To-morrow the traders will go out with their furs and Bro. Kilbuck with the *Bethel Star*. We fully expected to wait until the 10th for the vessel and are thankful we are not delayed. The weather is very warm and mosquitoes are almost unbearable. The children are well and enjoy the trip very much. Bro. Kilbuck came alone in the "scow," and I came down with the children in a bidarra. The "scow" is very unsteady when unloaded and I feared getting seasick if we all came down in her. The bidarras are much easier and even then I was seasick part of the way, only enough to be uncomfortable, not very badly. I, however, do not regret the trip. It is doing me so much good I feel like another person, and do not have the lonely, burdened feeling I had all the long Spring and Winter. It is my first trip and of sight of Bethel since we landed at that place. This reminds me of my wild prairie life when I was a girl and knew nothing of care. But I know how welcome the sight of home will be by the time we get back to Bethel again. I must now close my journal for this year. I sincerely hope it may be of interest to you. Bro. Kilbuck would have written this but for his weak eyes. Much has been written with Harry in my arms or very late at night. Just now I am seated in the tent keeping mosquitoes off of my sleeping babies. Look with charity on the blunders and may it be as much pleasure to you to read, as it has been for me to prepare it for you. We rejoice that the word from us this year is cheerful and are sure you will receive it with joy.

With happy cheerful hearts we begin a new Mission-year and would ask you ever to remember us in your prayers, that, when trials and weary

days do come grace may be given to bear us through even as it has been in the past.

I must mention one more thing before I close. The tusk I spoke of before we will not send this Spring, but will try and get a better or more perfect one, and, add to it some other interesting curiosities. The tusks are not very scarce, I believe.

The berries kept only tolerably well. I have put them in a box we send to Bro. Weinland. If you should care for good specimens, send me wide-mouthed bottles, holding two or three ounces and either alcohol or a preserving fluid and good corks. I will with pleasure send you the specimens.

Wishing you every joy and blessing I remain
Your Sister in Christ,

E. M. KILBUCK.

THE MORAVIAN: A CHRISTIAN FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

PUBL

YNUOD

[No. 40.] [OCTOBER 3, 1888.]

BETHLEHEM, PA.—On Monday, September 24, at 8 P.M. a general prayer-meeting was held in the large church. Bro. E. J. Regennas presided, and after the opening prayer by Bro. John Grönfeldt, made a brief address. Addresses were also

The annual business meeting of the Society for Propagating the Gospel was held on Friday at 8 P. M., in the old chapel, having been postponed so as to allow the ministers (who are *ex officio* members of the Society) to be present. Consequently the meeting was better attended than for many years. The Rev. A. Schultze, Vice-President, occupied the chair, and the Rev. J. T. Hamilton acted as Secretary. After hymn No. 723 had to various Mission stations. The Treasurer, Bro. R. de Schweinitz, reported upon the finances of the Society. The total expenses of the Alaska Mission have been \$2,892; the receipts have been somewhat larger, but the expenses for the next year will again be very great. He also reported that the most recent letters recited the fact that the governor of Alaska had used his authority to insure protection to our schools. Bro. E. S. Wolle

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., OCTOBER 10, 1888.

Card of Thanks.

CARMEL, ALASKA, August 16, 1888.

The missionaries at Carmel, Alaska, wish to thank all the parties who contributed toward the box of clothing which was sent to us for our scholars.

In the name of our Mission party.

F. E. WOLFF.

NEW YORK CITY.—The Rev. E. W. Shields,
Memorial services in memory of Sister Schwarze,
who was a former member of the German Moravian Church on Sixth Street, of which her father has been for more than twenty-five years an active member and honored office-bearer, were held on Sunday, in connection with the regular morning services.

At the evening service, an "Alaska" address was delivered by the Rev. Wm. H. Weinland, of Iowa; Brother Weinland and family are visiting their New York home relatives, for the first time since their return from Alaska.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Extracts from Letters of Miss Mary Huber.

CARMEL, Alaska, June 13, 1888.

Your letters arrived on May 10. We were expecting the vessel since May 1. On Sunday about midnight, a note was brought to the cannery saying a three-masted schooner lay at the mouth of the river. The river was so full of ice that it was not safe for a large vessel to enter. The men were expected to come in on small boats at high tide, but none came until Tuesday night. Early the next morning a native came from Nushagak all over-heated as though he had run the whole distance. They are very faithful when sent on an errand. We gave him a warm breakfast for which he was glad. Meanwhile Bro. Wolff assorts the letters. I did what was necessary before sitting down to read for I feared the letters would contain the sad news they did.

Mr. Clark was in San Francisco all Winter and has come back with this vessel to put up a new cannery. He will take charge of the new place and we will have a new manager here. We are sorry.

The barrel is not here yet but the things with all the love and sympathy they represent are very welcome. Will you please give our (Bro. and Sister Wolff's and mine) grateful love and thanks to all the dear friends who donated towards the box. We did not think of such a thing as having a box sent to us already this year, although I thought if some people knew how acceptable half-worn clothes would be, they would send us some if the distance were not so great. Then we all knew you helped us very much before I left home, so that we were ashamed to ask. Imagine our pleasure when we found you had already thought of our needs and a box was on the way; all things mentioned were very acceptable and will be used to the best advantage. The natives will prize the red cotton handkerchiefs; they are the only head dress worn here, except the hood to the parka, and cost fifty cents a piece, which means a great deal to these poor natives who get such small price for their products.

I forgot to tell you about a native mother and baby that we went to see last Sunday. Bro. Wolff was call out to see a young woman who had an ulcer and Sister Wolff went along. She had a baby that was only a few days old. Sister Wolff took a cap, a pair of socks and a tiny cup and saucer for the child. When they came the woman was sitting on the bed; she wore a pair of skin boots. The baby had on a white fur suit all made in one piece, boots, pants, and coat with collar. It was rabbit skin with the fur turned inside. It wore nothing else. The next day the children and I went along. We took a few raised biscuits

for the mother. When we came to the hut we stooped to get in, went through the outer apartment, then stooped low to get through the entrance to the inner hut. Here we found the mother sitting with the babe in her lap. It had on a soft gray fur suit. The father was sitting on the edge of the bed sewing a boot I think. In the middle of the room was a low fire; near it stood two black smoky kettles, the one containing a little greasy water in which the salmon had been cooked and the other was the tea kettle. The woman was out in the open air before the child was a week old. These poor people do not know how to take care of themselves and often bring suffering on themselves through their own fault. The place they live in, the food they eat and their imprudence often counteract the good effects of the medicines. They can not know when to take the latter because they have no clocks.

Bro. Wolff is fishing for king-salmon and salting them for the school, and we must dry some too. The natives are very fond of them dried; our boys took some of these for Mack when they had plenty of good food.

JUNE 18, 1888.

The *Dora* sailed into the Nushagak River early yesterday morning and our mail and provisions were brought ashore last evening. The natives unloaded until after midnight. Bro. Wolff was obliged to stay by the provisions on shore until the men had carried them to the house, after two o'clock. The mosquitoes were so plenty last night and this morning that it seemed like a mosquito storm. Mr. Waldron brought his daughter Olga to our school. She is a nice-looking girl twelve years old. Her father, John J. Waldron, is from New York and is the trader at St Michaels now. He will pay something toward her education and provides her clothes. We expect Sophie's sister and two larger boys in Fall but are not certain that they will come. The barrel was brought from Nushagak after all our things were here. We have not unpacked yet.—*Lititz Express.*

MARY HUBER.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., OCTOBER 17, 1888.

For THE MORAVIAN. LETTER FROM ALASKA.

A Letter From Brother Wolff.

The following letter from Alaska has just come to hand. The report from Carmel is cheering. Bro. Kilbuck's Fall mail which was forwarded by Brother Wolff, to San Francisco, has not yet arrived, but may be expected soon.

CARMEL, NUSHAGAK, Alaska, }
August 28, 1888. }

Dear Bro. R. de Schweinitz:

To-day the schooner *Pearl* arrived from Unalaska and brought us your last letter of July and some other mail. We were anxiously looking for the vessel to come. Bro. Kilbuck sent us

his Fall mail, and the natives came here last Thursday, August 23, just a day before the last fishing vessel sailed for San Francisco. They are now anxious to return. I had quite a time this morning to keep them any longer. They finally agreed to wait three days yet. They were afraid they would not get back before Winter set in. We will now send them back to-morrow morning.

I have not time to go and see before writing this letter whether our goods are all on board the vessel as the ship lies way down at the point about fifteen miles from here, and they wish to sail out again to-morrow. The letter you will receive from Bro. Kilbuck will probably tell you that he intends to come over to see us this Winter. We shall be very glad for his visit, and we shall have a good consultation in regard to the future of our work.

We opened our school yesterday. To-day we had seventeen scholars and we hope to get more

soon; we would like to have all we can get into the school-room. I have now about half finished two sod-huts where we intend to keep such scholars as come from remote villages. Mr. Clark, the justice of the peace, and Louis Günther, the constable, I think, will do all they can to help us. If you at any time wish to enter into negotiations with any of the fishing companies in regard to shipping lumber or anything, please write to Chas. H. Wells, No. 10 California Street, San Francisco, and ask him to speak to Mr. Bradford, of the Bristol Bay Packing Co. Mr. Wells will gladly do it, as he is anxious to do something for us; and the Bristol Bay Co. told me just before they left last week that anything they can do for us in that line they will gladly do. They have the largest vessel of any company here.

The Arctic Packing Company left three men here for this Winter. There are fifteen white men besides our family that are staying here in this neighborhood this Winter. Quite a number of miners from the Yukon are expected here this Fall, who will probably winter here. The rich gold mine at Unga, on the peninsula, is drawing these men this way. We have some of these white men in regular attendance on our Sunday services and we hope that some good seed may fall into the hearts of these wanderers.

We are all well and cheerful and look forward to our Winter's work with pleasure. This is our last opportunity for sending mail this year that we know of. Hoping to hear many good and encouraging news from you in Spring. We send you all our united love.

Affectionately your friend and brother,
F. E. WOLFF.

For THE MORAVIAN.
The Diary of Mrs. Wolff.

CARMEL, Alaska, January, 1888.

Jan. 1 was a bright and beautiful day. Mr. Louis was with us as usual and we all enjoyed the service.

Jan. 2 we spent in cleaning the school-house.

Jan. 4.—It was raining and snowing, still the

natives plod along with great packs on their backs to Nushagak, where they will spend the Russian Christmas. Bro. Wolff oiled the floor in the school-house.

Jan. 5.—It was still raining. We sewed muslin for lining the school-house, and Bro. Wolff began putting it on.

Jan. 6.—Still raining at intervals throughout the day. Spent the evening in cutting edges of wall paper for the school-house. Bro. Wolff finished putting on the muslin lining. About 11 P.M. he was called to go to Nushagak to see a sick woman.

Jan. 7.—Raining again all day. Bro. Wolff papered the school-house; the natives seem to be back from Nushagak; the celebration of the Russian Christmas appears to have taken an abrupt end.

Jan. 9.—Bro. Wolff put up the black-boards and lamps, and oiled the floor once more in the school-room, and now it all looks very nice and pretty.

Jan. 10.—The sky is still clouded, but the weather mild; scarcely below freezing point. This morning Bro. Wolff put desks down in the school-room, and now all is ready.

Jan. 16 was again a bright day. Mr. W. had hoped to open the school, but all the children seemed to be absent from home.

Jan. 17 was a lovely day; but rather cold. Early this morning Bro. Wolff went to the village to bring in what scholars he could find. Several bashful little girls needed considerable coaxing, and several others would not come, as their father was absent from home, and they must first obtain his permission. It seems too bad that so many of the natives happen to be absent from home just now, but we hope to gain many more scholars when they return. Marion and Ray seemed so anxious to go, that we allowed them to try it, and they seemed to like it. The school was therefore opened with seven scholars, nine including our little folks. Bro. Wolff opened the school by reading a passage of Scripture, whereupon he offered a fervent prayer, imploring the blessing of our Divine Head and Master upon the new work about to be begun, for the love of Christ and in His name.

The hymn "Around the Throne of God in Heaven" was then sung. After this work began and Aunt Mary and I went back to our duties.

Jan. 18 was a beautiful, but cold day. All the children in attendance at school yesterday were again present to-day, with the exception of one little girl who went to Nushagak. One native man visited the school to-day. Bro. Wolff afterwards brought him in the house where he was entertained with music for about an hour. He was about to leave when his wife and her two sisters came, and we were obliged to begin entertaining anew; they seemed highly pleased.

Jan. 19.—Warmer again to-day and just lovely; we could hardly resist the temptation to go out of doors. A new scholar entered the school to-day. Her name is Bolonga; she was just literally alive with 'wanderers,' and after school hours she was taken and washed and her head rubbed well with ointment. The floor where she stood lay full of

vermin. This evening Mr. Louis brought us a piece of salmon trout. Bro. Wolff shot seven grouse this morning before school.

Jan. 20 was again a fine day. 'Andre,' from Nushagak, also a native woman from here, visited the school to-day.

Jan. 21.—Still the weather continues fine, and we feel thankful. This morning we all got ready for a trip across the country, to the mountain about two and a half or three miles distance from here. Bro. Wolff fixed a box on one of the children's sleds for them to ride in, one child to sit down in the box, and then a seat up higher, and to the front, for the other (the driver) to sit upon. A handle fastened at the back completed the rig; and then the two native boys, 'Judas' as horse, and 'Charlie,' as 'pusher,' made the little sled travel at a rapid rate. Judas wore Ray's bright colored horse-line, and walked and pranced along as proudly as many stately ponies might. Mr. Louis went with us too. Traveling is very easy and pleasant just now, for the snow is in a smooth, hard crust. On the top of the mountain the snow was all gone, and the pretty moss was to be seen. The scenery was grand with the lofty snow-clad mountains in the distance. To the south was to be seen Bristol Bay and on its shore the village of Yekuk; to the northeast a stretch of woods, looking so dark in contrast with the white snow so brilliantly sparkling in the glowing sunshine. To the west and north the Nushagak river flowed. It all formed a beautiful picture. By and by we ate the lunch we had taken with us, and then we retreated to a more sheltered nook in a little valley below, where the boys made a great fire right on the snow. Coming home, Bro. Wolff shot some grouse. This evening we all felt very tired.

Jan. 22.—Each beautiful day is succeeded by another this past week, and this one has been no exception. Our Sunday-school and service were held as usual. This evening a strange native was here. We were just enjoying some music when he came, and it seemed to please him immensely. His whole face was one broad smile all the time. Once in a while he would say "Alyngen" and "Aseichtug," meaning wonderfully good. We were obliged to open a window and a door, on account of the density of the atmosphere.

Jan. 23.—The weather continues beautiful. This evening Bro. Wolff gave a magic lantern exhibition in the school-house, inviting the natives of the village promiscuously, and I think such joy they never knew.

Jan. 24.—The day was fair again. Bro. Wolff gave each child attending school a small piece of soap, with instructions to wash. O! they were so filthy dirty. The two boys from Tokiak, who take their meals here, were made to saw six pieces of wood to-day and they will probably have this much to saw every day. After supper the natives fairly swarmed around here, probably to see whether there was not some amusement in store for them again. Bro. Wolff fixed the two bobs of our large sled and gave them to the children of the school to use on the hill, and they had a gay time.

Jan. 25.—To-day the sky is overshadowed with clouds and it is trying to snow. "Cris" came from Nushagak this morning, and Bro. Wolff extracted three teeth for him.

Jan. 26.—It is growing colder, the thermometer indicating six degrees below zero. The sky was

overclouded all day. This afternoon we gave an hour's instruction in sewing to the girls. We gave them squares of unbleached muslin to hem for handkerchiefs; when they have finished them, they shall keep and make good use of them. The names of the girls are Martha Magdalena, Milina, Agnuesga, two by the name of Bolongà, little Ega and Sophie. We were obliged to make them wash their hands first and then the difficulty was to find thimbles small enough for them to wear; for their hands are so very small and graceful.

Jan. 27.—This morning the thermometer indicated 16 degrees below zero. The sun only peeped out occasionally.

Jan. 28.—This has been a bright and sunshiny day; but cold, the thermometer indicating 22 degrees below zero. Two native women visited us to-day. One of them came from Nushagak, and the other was the lame man's wife who often comes here.

Jan. 29 was again a lovely day, the thermometer stood at 16 degrees below zero. We were just singing the closing hymn for Sunday-school, when Mr. Louis came, and soon after 'Chris' from Nushagak, and then both joined with us in our service.

Jan. 30 was again a beautiful day, the thermometer still indicating 10 degrees below zero. Chiunalula and Melina were absent from school to-day. A large black crow was hopping about here this afternoon. Mr. Louis spent the evening here, he brought us a nice mess of fresh fish. We had a long and serious conversation with Mr. Louis this evening again, and he expressed a desire for confirmation, the Lord be praised!

Jan. 31.—The weather was bright, but very cold. 'Iriseveda' was here to help with the washing, but did not seem at all like herself. In place of her usually bright and cheerful manner, she was very sullen and gloomy. We can not understand it.

Feb. 1 was a cold, cloudy and stormy day, the wind blowing the snow at a "blizzard" rate. "Chunala" and Melina have not been to school this week yet, and this afternoon Chun's oldest brother, accompanied by three other natives came to see Bro. Wolff. They wanted to see him in the school-house, and there they held a long and heated conversation, of which he could understand but little. It became clear to him, however, that Chunala and Melina were not to come to school any more. They further insisted that these names be stricken from the roll. "School no good, no good," they would say; and upon being asked, what made them think so, they said the priest at Nushagak told them so. Undoubtedly the priest has not favored the sending of these children to school, and as they greatly fear to disobey him, they must necessarily be removed. There is a bright young native living in this village by the name of "Auresang." He

has for several seasons helped the cook of the Arctic Fishing Co. and understands a little English. Capt. Larson offered to take him to San Francisco with a payment of \$20 a month throughout and board, with the privilege of learning all he possibly could. He consented, and was very anxious to go. Only one thing yet, being very faithful to his priest, he must first ask his permission; and he refused to let him go. So the poor fellow was obliged to go home to his poor, filthy hut, to live in idleness the eight or nine months between the fishing seasons. 'Magdelena' is not to come to school either any more; she is such a bright, promising girl, and a sister of the young man who wanted to go to San Francisco. Mr. Louis spent the evening here and we continued reading the "Life of Bunyan."

Feb. 2.—Still a stormy, cloudy day. Five native women and two men visited us to-day. They behaved rather strangely; we can not make out the object of their coming here—whether for good or evil design. Mrs. Orloff, the 'Deaconess' of Nushegak, has for some time been *very* busy in the village, particularly so these past few days. On Tuesday she was on the ice fishing in company with a number of the natives from this place. She then returned with them here on Wednesday and we have great reason to believe that she stirred up those four men to their interview with Bro. Wolff. She did not go to her home in Nushagak, until this morning early. Shortly before noon she again passed by here on her way to the village, where

she remained until dusk. Little "Agnuesga" and Ega are not allowed to come to school either any more. Their mother is a sister of 'Charlie' and Chunala, or in other words, a daughter of the late 'Chief.' We felt particularly sorry for these two little girls.

Feb. 3 was not quite as cold as yesterday; but still cloudy and dreary, the wind blowing the snow into great drifts. This morning our boys from Tokiak did not make their appearance until we were through with breakfast. They are usually in such good time, that it seemed strange to us. They behaved very sullenly, too; the largest boy, 'Branka,' did not come into the house at all. We can not help wondering whether the evil influence which is at work against us has not been exerted over them too. This afternoon "Chris" came to have some more teeth drawn. He brought us a rabbit and a salted goose. The native women all seemed 'with one consent' to go to Nushagak to-day, even 'big Bolonga' had to go in preference to coming to school. It seemed as though there would be no girls coming to school at all; so Bro. Wolff sent Sophie over to the village, and she succeeded in bringing 'little Bolonga' with her. She with Sophie and Martha were the only girls present. After school we gave Bolonga a woolen cap, she was bare-headed and cold. We also gave her a little sewing ease and cushion, and she was pleased. Her father, 'Little Paul,' as he is generally called, visited the school to-day, also Gaveriel's brother (whose name is "Wedimore.") They both seemed greatly pleased, especially the latter, who even took a slate and pencil and tried to write too.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., OCTOBER 24, 1888.

For THE MORAVIAN.
ALASKA.

The Diary of Mrs. Wolff.

CARMEL, Alaska, January, 1888.

Feb. 4.—Still snowing and blowing violently. It is warmer, however, and the snow is turning into rain. The drifts of snow about the house are very high.

Feb. 5.—The snow is drifted out the back way, in some places about six feet high. There is a neat path cut out, however, and the sidewalk is clean. This morning it was sleetting. Mr. Louis was here as usual, and the Sunday-school and service were as welcome and interesting as ever. This evening we continued our reading.

Feb. 6.—The thermometer stands about freezing point, and rain falls at intervals. Little Bologna was the only girl at school to-day besides Sophie. Martha stayed at home to wash and the larger 'Bolonga' went to Nushagak again. Whether she will come again or not, we can not tell now. About 5 P.M. Mr. Beckwith stopped here on his way back to Nushagak, after a prolonged stay across the river, at Togiak, etc. He brought us a very welcome letter from Brother Kilbuck.

February 7.—This has been a lovely day, the sun shining warmly, and the ice thawing. We wrote letters to Brother and Sister Kilbuck. Five native women visited here to-day, one of them little Bolonga's mother. Between 3 and 4 P.M. two sleds drawn by a number of dogs passed by. They belonged to two traders on their way to Nushagak; the one coming from the direction of Kodiak, and the other from Llamau Lake. "Brauka" carried our letters to Nushagak. Bro. Wolff returned his parka too as he does not need it. Mr. Louis spent the evening here.

February 8 was cloudy and rainy. We were very busy with our sewing.

February 9.—This morning it was still raining, but about noon it cleared up; the thermometer still indicates about, and a little above, the freezing point. We were quite comfortable in our sitting-room this afternoon and evening without a fire. Three native men from Knaganak were here this evening. Later, Mr. Louis came and brought "Wedimore" with him. Kept the sewing-school this afternoon. The children's clothing keeps us busy, from early till late.

February 10.—To-day the weather was fine and pretty warm, although rather windy. Bolonga number one, was again absent from school; oh, I only hope, she will come again! "Wedimore" spent some time in school to-day.

February 11 was a fine day, although somewhat colder, the mercury falling to about 10 degrees below zero this evening.

February 12 was cold and cloudy. We kept our services as usual.

February 13.—This has again been a cloudy and cold day, and this evening some snow fell. Just as school was about to open this morning a visitor came, and stayed a little while, when he got up, took his cap, and in going out said "Asse-duck" (bad). He was from Nushagak. "Cris" came too, this morning for medicine; he was feeling very badly and looked sick. Yesterday "Paul" (the Russian) returned from the woods where he had been sent to cut logs for the Greek priest's school-house. He had not been gone long enough to suit Mr. Beckwith, who had sent him, and so they got to quarrelling about it. Paul declaring he would not go any more unless given more provisions. Mr. Beckwith was pretty badly intoxicated; whether Paul was or not, we do not know. At any rate, Bro. Wolff began to doubt the safety of his life at the hands of Paul, and sent for "Cris" for protection. Mr. Beckwith started out for Llamany Lake in company with the traders, who passed here on the 7th inst., and at Todiac they stopped for the night, and there is where they met "Paul" on his return. The father of "Judas" lives there, and is the secret distiller of the intoxicating drinks for Nushagak, and is therefore called "Sly Andreas." There must have been dreadful carrying on; drinking, carousing, etc., in Nushagak yesterday; and in the evening the deacon's son, crazed with drink, beat his mother, and to-day she wears a very sore eye and blue face. This young man is the school teacher at Nushagak.

February 14—A bright and sunny, but windy day. On number 13 of the "Alaska Views," immediately to the front and above the words "Esquimaux and dwelling," stands Judas and his father, who wears a cap with a shield; the man to his left is "little Paul."

February 15.—This has been a bright and beautiful day. The mother of Bolonga (No. 1) and Bolegea came here this morning with a complication of ailments. Our little folks spent some time out of doors; first Charlie and afterwards "Brauka" pushed them about in their sled. We

are still very busy with sewing for these poor children; but love to do it, if it may only help along the Lord's cause.

February 16 was rather cloudy throughout the day; but brighter this evening. We were very busy, and kept the girls' sewing-hour besides this afternoon.

February 17.—This has been a cloudy day. After school Bro. Wolff went with the boys to work, at breaking timbers from the wrecked schooner *Montana*.

February 18 was again a very busy day. The weather was fine, and the children spent several hours out of doors.

February 19.—It has been trying to snow all day. Mr. Louis attended service as usual. About noon "Cris" and Paul from Nushagak came here. They had brought "Lame Sophie" to attend school; she is to live in the village with an uncle and aunt. Paul offered his services as interpreter to Bro. Wolff, and so Tuesday next is the day set, for a meeting of the native men.

February 21.—It is still cloudy and trying to snow. We kept looking towards Nushagak all day; but Paul failed to come, and we felt disappointed. Still we believe all will come right. The words of our text for this morning are "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" Yes, our dear Saviour has no doubt some wise design in view, of which we can not, may not know; but surely *He will* in His own good time accomplish His purposes. Sewed again all day for the poor little native children. Mr. Louis was here again this evening for catechetical instruction.

February 22.—This has been a tolerably fair day; although there was not much sunshine. This morning we saw "Cris" and Mr. Beckwith coming from Nushagak, and we then hoped that Paul would come too; but they passed by and went to the village. On their way home they stopped here for a few minutes however. Mr. Beckwith told Bro. Wolff that he could not let Paul come yesterday as there was work for him to do; and that to-day he was not feeling well, and he did not think it advisable for him to go out, and he did not know either whether it would suit, etc., etc.; but that he should come to-morrow. After school we had the Bolonga's Nos. one and two, and little Bolegea to remain here. We prepared a tub with warm water in the school-room, and then first washed Bolonga No. 2. We sent for her mother, who came in spite of a real sore eye. The other two were treated in the same manner and when their mother came, (they are sisters) we asked permission to cut their hair, she consented, and we cut—but oh!—the rest I will surely not tell. After they were finished they looked so pretty, and so supremely happy, that we felt more than repaid. Each one got supper, also the father of Bolonga No. 2, who came, I suppose, to see why the mother and little girl stayed so long. Bro. Wolff had been at work with four of the boys at breaking fire-wood from the old vessel, and we detained the girls until he came home; for we wanted him to see them too. When he came, he thought it would be quite nice to have some fire-works, and so we then kept them all here much longer, than we had at first intended. After our supper Bro. Wolff sat down to the organ and had all the children gather around him to sing. Oh! would our Christian friends at home could have heard them sing "Around the throne of God in heaven." It made our hearts ache to be able to tell them, what the words meant, which they sang so well. But for this we must yet work and wait patiently, praying God all the while to open the way for us. We afterwards went out, to the west end of the house, to see the fire-works. The children were all packed into Mr. Louis big sled which happened to be here. We could not well have such a happy time without Mr. Louis, and so we sent for him too; and altogether we think it was a very happy day.

February 23.—To-day it has been snowing and blowing at a blizzard rate; not so badly this morning, but growing worse all day. Near noon Paul arrived from Nushagak with the Chief. They went into the school-room for a short time, and

then went to the village to collect the men and bring them here. Thirteen came, and then Paul interpreted. They were urged to send their children to school; and the object of the school once more explained to them. They did not seem to be very anxious however to have their children come to school any more; but tried in various ways to excuse them. Paul and the Chief were entertained in the house for some time afterwards, and left about 3 P.M. Mr. Louis was invited to supper, in honor of our little Ray's birthday; but as we knew he had gone to Nushagak in the morning, and the appointed time arrived and passed; we concluded he could not return on account of the storm, and began with our supper. We were nearly finished when he came. He had lost his way in the storm, and got out to the middle of the river on the ice, where there is a mudflat; not knowing which way he should go, he turned back and fortunately met Paul, who was on his way home. He had suffered much from the cold and driving snow. He also made Ray a present of three very pretty marten skins.

February 24.—It is still cold and cloudy; but not blowing as severely as yesterday. This afternoon we kept the usual sewing-hour for the girls; also cut Bolonga's (No. 2) hair.

February 26.—This morning dawned wonderfully bright and beautiful; but towards noon the sky clouded over and all was dreary again. Mr. Louis was already here for service, when Mr. Beckwith with "Cris" and Paul, came from Nushagak with two sleds and dog teams. Mr. Beckwith and "Cris" are on their way to Ogas-higk, where the Company's trader is reported to be very sick of typhoid fever. They stopped here for medicine and advice. Being disturbed this morning we kept our service this evening.

February 27.—It has been warm and thawing all day, still cloudy and unpleasant. The deacon's wife from Nushagak came this morning and brought her son's child to school; it seems very strange, because this child's father is for all the teacher of the school in Nushagak.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., OCTOBER 31, 1888.

For THE MORAVIAN.
ALASKA.

The Diary of Mrs. Wolff.

CARMEL, Alaska, January, 1888.

February 28.—The wind blew fiercely all night, and this morning rain was falling. Mr. Louis was here this evening, we continued our reading.

March 1.—This has been a mild day, the sun seemed to be obscured by fog. Washing was in order, and we had little Paul's wife to help. About 9 A.M. her Bolonga came running to tell her the Deaconess was here. The woman then wanted to go home, and we allowed her to go.

She came back again very soon. Shortly after Mrs. Deaconess came too, and stood at the tub, talking with our washer-woman. We gave her a chair in the kitchen; and there she sat quite alone for some time, when something seemed to prompt her to leave.

March 2 was a delightful day. I could not but think how people at home go out on such a lovely day, and walk on the sunny side of the street. We walked back and forth on our limited sidewalk for about fifteen minutes. The children had a gay time out of doors, too. Charlie and Gavriel pulled them about in Mr. Louis' sled. We kept the usual sewing-hour for the girls again to-day, and found the Deaconess' grand-daughter very obstinate and trying.

March 3 was a lovely day and the children spent a good deal of time out of doors. Bro. Wolff worked at the old schooner.

March 4 was a delightful day, the sun shining very warmly. We kept our usual services and spent the evening in continuing to read the "Pilgrim's Progress."

March 6.—The weather continues beautiful. While we were at breakfast the blind man and two women called; they stayed but a very short time, and then went to Nushagak. Bro. Wolff worked at the old ship again after school-hours, and the boys brought up the wood which he broke from her.

March 8.—We kept the sewing-hour as usual. We tried to teach Bolonga (No. 1) to iron some of her clothes. "Andre" and another native from Nushagak called; later the son of the former with the priest's watch. He wanted Bro. Wolff to give him the right time. We took little Ivan's measure; the poor little fellow wore two very old parkas, the one more ragged than the other, and after he had taken these off, he stood perfectly naked in his boots. They were old rubber boots, probably No. 12, men's size, which had been left by some fishermen. Poor, little great-eyed boy, he is perhaps six or seven years old, and is motherless. To-day we got 40 pounds of moose-meat and a porcupine. Bolonga No. 1's mother and little

"Oscilly" came here just about supper-time, and from all that we could understand, she wanted to pick the porcupine; we told her she could, but must wait until to-morrow, as it must first be thawed.

March 9.—Again a lovely day, but considerably colder than it had been for the past week. This morning before breakfast Little Paul came for Bro. Wolff; his wife was sick and he wanted him to see her. Shortly after breakfast "Mack" came home with a grouse, wounded, but still alive. Bolonga mother picked the porcupine. Her three children were here with her all the time; and we were just about to eat supper when little Ivan came to tell her, that her son had just come home (he had been away for a long time). So she went home and presently returned bringing him with her too, and so we had, all told, eight natives for supper. Near 5 P.M. I went with Bro. Wolff to see Little Paul's wife, and took with me a small dish of toast. When we came

there she was lying in a corner of the hut, on a wooden bed, perhaps a foot from the ground, but of a decent width. There the poor woman was, real sick, the effects of a heavy cold, covered with an old quilt, her head rested upon a sort of a pillow, made by stuffing some old clothing (or rags as they might more properly be called) into a bag. This hut is considered the cleanest and best in the village, and it is really not as bad as some which we have already seen; still, at its best, it beggars description. Directly opposite the door, against the wall of the hut, there was a little shelf-like table, containing a few very bright colored dishes. Underneath there was a little trunk. On the other side of the hut there was a broom and two tubs. A little more to the middle of the hut there was a little stove, made of a five-gallon tin oil-can. There was also a large frame, covered with wall-paper of all colors, as a background, for the three "holy pictures" of the Greek Church. The only means they have for lighting up their dingy huts is a small, rusty tin pan, containing some oil, into which a wick made of common string is placed.

March 10.—Again a bright and clear day; but rather colder and more windy. Three native men spent some time here this morning—two were strangers.

March 11.—The weather continues fine; but cold, the thermometer indicating 4 degrees below zero this morning. Mr. Louis came up early to congratulate Bro. Wolff on his birthday. He made him a present of a very welcome pair of snow shoes. Our services were kept as usual, and this evening we continued our reading.

March 12.—Bright and clear; but cold, the thermometer indicating 8 degrees below zero this morning. Little Paul was here again this morning and told us his wife was better. The father of "Judas" is sick and lying in the kashima. Bro. Wolff attended him yesterday and to-day. This afternoon Aunt Mary and I went over to see the wife of Little Paul. We found her still upon her bed; but looking much better. Her husband was sitting there with her, they had a small box before them, and there they played at cards. To think that these ignorant natives should be acquainted with this vice! A number of natives were here this afternoon. Cut some waists for little Ivan.

March 13.—A little snow fell during the day, and this evening it suddenly grew warmer and some rain fell.

March 19.—It is still snowing and very windy, the thermometer hovers about the freezing point. This morning the Deaconess brought her little grand-daughter to school again (she had been absent for a week). They brought a note from Mr. Beckwith asking us to give the little girl something to eat and oblige him. It seems strange; her father is paid a stated salary by the Greek Church.

March 20 was a pleasant day and the children spent some time out of doors. About 11 A.M. Paul Kajarnikoff came from Nushagak with an eight-dog team and sled, gaily painted red and

green. He seemed to be in great distress; his wife was very sick, with an affection of the heart; he said, they had feared her death earlier in the day. Bro. Wolff got ready and went with him immediately, and I went over to the school-room.

About 4 P.M. Bro. Wolff was again brought home.

March 21.—The weather is still cloudy and unpleasant. "Gaveriel" and "Branka" were very sullen in school to-day. Bro. Wolff saw them going to Nushagak when he was returning yesterday. A trip to this village does not seem very beneficial to any of the scholars. The mother of Bolonga No. 1 was again here towards evening; she is suffering very much with rheumatism, and wanted attention. A very old woman is sick in the village and this evening they called for Bro. Wolff to see her.

March 22.—Cloudy and snowing still. Gaveriel was absent from school and "Branka" continued very sullen, although both had breakfast here.

March 23.—The sun broke through the clouds and the day proved a fine one. After school Branka told Bro. Wolff he was not coming any more. It does seem such a pity; he was so bright and promising.

March 25.—Rain and snow have been falling almost all day, and a cold wind was blowing. Four native men came here this morning, just as we were having Sunday-school. They had an ivory knife and two forks for sale. Bro. Wolff sent them away, having tried to make them understand that it was Sunday and he could not buy; of course this they could not understand; for they do their buying mainly on Sundays when they go to church. Last Sunday the natives from all parts gathered at Nushagak for service; but were disappointed as the priest was *too drunk* to keep it. So the church remained locked and the people returned to their homes declaring Nushagak *asseduck* "bad).

March 26.—Several inches of heavy wet snow fell during the night; in fact, some snow falls most every night of late. During the day the air was full of snow-puffs, followed by peeps of sunshine. Bro. Wolff thinks the ice is beginning to move out of the river. This evening we continued our "Passion" Week service.

March 27.—This afternoon we washed and dressed Ivan, and will keep him right here; he looks so changed, no one would recognize him, and he is supremely happy. Little Paul and Ezra's father worked here to-day, fetching coal and chopping wood. With such work we miss the big boys who left the school. It seems Ivan has an older brother, and he came around here to-day, lounging about the school-house. I happened to see him and asked him to come in. He consented, and staid, in spite of "Judas'" protesting against it, saying he belonged to the Nushagak school. Bro. Wolff gave him a seat and the boy set to work at studying his A, B, C's.

March 28.—This has been a most beautiful day. Ivan slept soundly all night, but woke up about 5 A.M. and then went out and tried to wash himself. He was just as lively as a cricket. His

brother came too shortly before breakfast. The children all spent an hour out of doors before school.

March 29.—This morning Bro. Wolff went hunting quite early, and returned by breakfast time with thirteen grouse. The day was perfectly lovely.

March 30.—was again a beautiful day. At 10 A.M. we held one service and at 3 P.M. another. Mr. Louis was with us, and was deeply moved during the morning service. In the early part of the afternoon, we walked out for a little fresh air, and took a look at the ice-covered river.

March 31.—We are still favored with very fine weather. To-day some of the older scholars were picking grouse. When they came in to dinner three of them left their unfinished birds lie where they picked, and the dogs came and fetched them.

M. E. W.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., NOVEMBER 7, 1888.

For THE MORAVIAN.
ALASKA.

The Diary of Mrs. Wolff.

CARMEL, Alaska, January, 1888.

April 7.—The thermometer indicated nearly 10 degrees below zero, and a very high wind prevailed.

April 11.—The weather is beautiful again, and the sun does not set now until a little after 7 P. M. This morning the priest from Nushagak called to see Bro. Wolff. He came to the village to give communion to an old woman who is sick.

April 12.—The mother of Bolonga (No. 1) was here again all day; she came to have her sore limb poulticed.

April 13.—Brother Wolff spent the entire afternoon filling teeth for "Cris" from Nushagak.

April 14.—The fine weather continues, and we rejoice. This evening about 9 P. M. Mr. P. Kearney, a miner, arrived from the Kuskokwim, bringing us the long looked-for letters from Brother and Sister Kilbuck. We were so happy and excited over these letters that we sat up till midnight to read and talk them over. The old woman who had been sick for some time died, and they came to Brother Wolff for boards and nails to make a coffin.

April 15.—Our Sunday-school was held as usual this morning. Immediately after the Greek priest called, lighting his cigarette just before entering the house; he had been in the village to

officiate at the funeral of the old woman who died yesterday. This afternoon Mr. Louis and Mr. Kearney attended service.

April 16.—The fair weather still continues, and we are glad, although we are in sad need of water to fill our cistern. Bolonga's mother is again spending the day here to be nursed. Evan fell

into the mud at recess, and got himself into a dreadful condition. As he has only one suit to wear, we put him to bed. He went quite patiently, and soon fell asleep. This afternoon Brother Wolff finished filling "Cris's" teeth; he filled thirteen cavities, drew four teeth, and took out five roots.

April 22.—At 2.30 P. M. the solemn service of confirmation was held. It was a most impressive hour. The service was opened by the German hymn, "Mit dem Herrn fang Alles an!" Hymn, No. 322 was next sung, then came a fervent prayer, followed by the reading of Scripture and singing of hymn No. 325. The sermon was based on Romans 14: 4. Then hymn No. 329 was sung, followed by a short address, and the catechetical questions. After singing "Just as I am," the confirmation took place. A final prayer followed and the service closed with the "Benediction." After a short intermission we partook of the Holy Communion. It was all very solemn and touching. O, that the blessed impressions of this afternoon hour may never fade, but bear fruit unto life eternal!

April 29.—It is still cloudy, and the longed-for rain has not come yet. Mr. Louis was with us again; he told us how one of the white men staying here had brought him a jug of whisky, and he refused to take it. It made the man very angry, and he said: "You will go up there to those people (meaning us) until you get crazy," and then left, slamming the door after him. Poor Mr. Louis! May God help him, and especially now when the fishermen come, and temptations multiply.

April 30.—Brother Wolff arose about 3 A. M., and went to see the high tide take out the ice. When he came home he shot a nice large goose right back of the turf-house, and another one on the bank. So we had our first goose of the season for dinner, and invited Mr. Louis to come and enjoy it with us. When he came home last evening he found a note stuck under his door, inviting him to come to Nushagak to-day, but he very wisely refused. Some of the white men from across the river have met there to have a "good time," and at such gatherings strong drink flows freely. O, we are so thankful that he has come out from amongst them and has separated himself from them!"

May 3.—Very little rain fell throughout the night, and this morning it is again bright and clear. We were very busy making clothes for Jacob.

May 4.—Again a lovely day. All the natives seem to have gone to Nushagak, and no children came to school. This afternoon the Chief came from Nushagak for medicine. Jacob seemed to be very much afraid of him, and tried to make us understand that this man beat him for coming here to school. Later in the afternoon Jacob was washed and dressed, and then turned out to be one of the happiest boys we ever saw.

May 5.—This morning at high-tide Mr. Louis took us a little boat-ride on the creek. We enjoyed it immensely, although it seemed very

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May 7.—About midnight Mr. Louis received a note informing him that a three-mast schooner was lying outside. Of course all of us were excited over it, and anxious to know which vessel it might be. About 11 A. M. a bidarka was seen and Brother Wolff went down to the shore to see, but soon returned saying, "the vessel belongs to the cannery across the river, she is not at all likely to have any mail for us." Mr. Louis was up-stairs to-day, fixing Brother Wolff's fishing net; he worked at it until 10 P. M. This evening Mr. Louis again received a note stating, that the vessel of the Arctic Packing Company had also arrived. They may possibly come in during the night or early to-morrow morning. Mr. Louis says, that if he gets any letters for us, he will bring them up even if it is midnight.

May 8.—We slept undisturbed throughout the night, and when Mr. Louis came this morning he told us that the reported vessel did not belong to this cannery.

May 10.—Our letters are here at last; a native brought them while we were at breakfast. We began to read eagerly, but had not read much before the sad news of bereavements burst upon us. We felt very sad, indeed, but He who promised to sustain and strengthen us failed not. We received many kind and loving letters from friends at home. O, if they could but know how our hearts are cheered and our courage strengthened by the assurance of their prayers for our behalf! We were still reading letters this afternoon, when two fishermen came and wanted to see Brother Wolff. They were from the Bradford Cannery. Brother Wolff went at once to see what was wanted. He found that one of them had broken his arm, and wanted him to attend to it. As his nerves were already overtaxed, this was too much, and when the man rolled up his sleeve to show his arm Brother Wolff fainted. We were in the sitting-room and heard the noise, but all went so quickly that we hardly could tell how it happened. We rushed out and found the other man trying to help him up. After resting for a few minutes he set the man's arm.

May 25.—Again a lovely day. Brother Wolff went across the creek and got some little trees, which he planted on the south side of the house; we do hope they will grow.

May 28.—Brother Wolff, Jacob and Ivan went across the creek this morning to dig a place for a garden; he planted some potatoes, etc. This afternoon he went to the creek and with a dip-net got a pail of smelts.

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May 7.—About midnight Mr. Louis received a note informing him that a three-mast schooner was lying outside. Of course all of us were excited over it, and anxious to know which vessel it might be. About 11 A. M. a bidarka was seen and Brother Wolff went down to the shore to see, but soon returned saying, "the vessel belongs to the cannery across the river, she is not at all likely to have any mail for us." Mr. Louis was up-stairs to-day, fixing Brother Wolff's fishing net; he worked at it until 10 P. M. This evening Mr. Louis again received a note stating, that the vessel of the Arctic Packing Company had also arrived. They may possibly come in during the night or early to-morrow morning. Mr. Louis says, that if he gets any letters for us, he will bring them up even if it is midnight.

May 8.—We slept undisturbed throughout the night, and when Mr. Louis came this morning he told us that the reported vessel did not belong to this cannery.

May 10.—Our letters are here at last; a native brought them while we were at breakfast. We began to read eagerly, but had not read much before the sad news of bereavements burst upon us. We felt very sad, indeed, but He who promised to sustain and strengthen us failed not. We received many kind and loving letters from friends at home. O, if they could but know how our hearts are cheered and our courage strengthened by the assurance of their prayers in our behalf! We were still reading letters this afternoon, when two fishermen came and wanted to see Brother Wolff. They were from the Bradford Cannery. Brother Wolff went at once to see what was wanted. He found that one of them had broken his arm, and wanted him to attend to it. As his nerves were already overtaxed, this was too much, and when the man rolled up his sleeve to show his arm Brother Wolff fainted. We were in the sitting-room and heard the noise, but all went so quickly that we hardly could tell how it happened. We rushed out and found the other man trying to help him up. After resting for a few minutes he set the man's arm.

May 25.—Again a lovely day. Brother Wolff went across the creek and got some little trees, which he planted on the south side of the house; we do hope they will grow.

May 28.—Brother Wolff, Jacob and Ivan went across the creek this morning to dig a place for a garden; he planted some potatoes, etc. This afternoon he went to the creek and with a dip-net got a pail of smelts.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., NOVEMBER 14, 1888.

ALASKA.

The Diary of Mrs. Wolff.

[CONCLUDED.]

CARMEL, Alaska, January, 1888.

June 3.—A lovely day. This evening a meeting for the fishermen was held in the school-house. The room was quite full, and the men joined heartily in the singing.

June 7.—Brother Wolff was out all night with his net, and caught four large king salmon; one weighed 45 pounds.

June 8.—It is still very warm, but somewhat more windy this afternoon. Brother Wolff was out again all night, but did not get any fish.

June 9.—The wind blew a perfect gale to-day. Sick patients in the village needed considerable attention.

June 14.—The weather has been very warm all week, and the mosquitoes very troublesome. Today it is one year since we first entered our house here. O, how graciously the Lord hath led us! The father of our little boys, Jacob and Ivan, came to-day. During the Winter he fell upon the ice and broke his thigh; consequently he can not use it, but came crawling on his hands and feet. It looked pitiful, indeed. Brother Wolff dropped his work and immediately made a pair of

crutches for him. When he went back to the "kashima" he used them; he was so happy and tried to walk so fast, that we feared he might fall, especially as he was not accustomed to the use of the crutches yet. "Nutannasiechtug," he repeated over and over again, meaning, "now then, very good."

June 17.—When we arose this morning we noticed that the *Dora* was lying at anchor in the river opposite Nushagak. Brother Wolff went out to her about 11 A. M., and returned about 5 P. M. He brought four oranges, which the steward had kindly given him. The very sight of them did us good. We received our mail about 6 P. M. On board the vessel Brother Wolff met Mr. J. Waldron, who has a twelve-year-old daughter, whom he thinks of leaving here with us to attend the school. She has been away from her home in St. Michael's, Alaska, for three years, spending a part of the time in Ounalaska, and the rest in San Francisco. About 8.30 P. M. our freight was brought, and Brother Wolff was obliged to go down to the bank to get natives to bring the things up. They worked until 1.30 A. M.

June 18.—About noon Mr. Waldron brought his daughter; she is very large for her age, and her name is Ulga.

June 20.—To-day we unpacked the box from Bethlehem. O; how thankful we feel, not only for ourselves, but above all for our poor little native children! For we shall now be better able to give them warm clothing this Winter, and keep them clean. Surely the Saviour knew how badly we needed these things, and put it into the hearts of the dear people to give them. May He also abundantly bless and reward them!

June 22.—Brother Wolff was out fishing until 2 A. M., when he returned with 43 fish, large king salmon. We were kept busy all day cleaning them.

June 23.—This morning we filled one hundred and ninety cans with fish for canning.

June 24.—A very high wind prevailed throughout the day. All the services were kept in the school-house. Jacob's father was here for Sunday-school. The attendance at the meeting this evening was good. Many of the natives came.

June 25.—Mr. Clark called this afternoon. The barrel from Lititz arrived, and again many useful articles appeared, besides many very pretty cards, etc. Our hearts are full, we know not what to say, but feel very grateful to each and every one. Brother Wolff is building a smoke-house.

June 29.—Rain fell to-day. We cleaned 116 fish, and felt very tired this evening. We had just finished when Brother Wolff was called to the village to attend to some sick.

June 30.—This morning we were quite unexpectedly visited by the Hon. A. P. Swineford, Governor of Alaska, and several other gentlemen. He seemed to be very much interested in our work, and kindly offered to assist us in any way he possibly could. He appointed Mr. Clark at Nushagak Justice of the Peace, and Mr. Louis Guenther Constable, so as to be better able to carry

out the school laws of Alaska. He also spoke with the priest and chief at Nushagak, and we hope it will have a good effect. He may possibly visit us again next year.

July 4.—A lovely day. We unfurled our beautiful flag for the first time. It was sent us in Spring by Dr. Jackson, and is a gift of Mrs. E. Shepard, of New York.

July 7.—A rainy day. A great deal of rain fell last evening, and this morning we can again make use of our cistern pump.

July 14.—This afternoon Mr. Clark sent Paul to ask Brother Wolff to come down to the cannery at Tekuk. He is to attend to the engineer who is sick. He got ready immediately, and was taken by two natives in a three-holed bidarky. The afternoon was lovely, and it seemed as if being on the water must be a real pleasure.

July 15.—Brother Wolff returned at 2 A. M. feeling very cold. The day was bright and warm until this afternoon, when a thunder storm arose. This is something very unusual for these parts and was the first since we are here. About 8.30 P. M. the fishermen came for service, and the room was well filled. They took a lively part in the singing, and as the service continued, some of the men were moved to tears. O, that some seed may be sown to bear fruit unto life eternal!

July 16.—This has been a lovely day. Brother Wolff arose early and went fishing, returning about 9.30 A. M. with 90 fish. They are to be dried for the scholars, and Jacob's father helped all day to cut them. This morning Jacob told the girls that he would stay here for some time yet, and after awhile Martha (who attended school here during the Winter) and he would go to Nushagak to school, where they had plenty of whisky. He said: "I like to drink it, and then I go so-so," motioning how he would reel from side to side, make music (with an accordion) and dance. Then he related he would get a headache, lie down on the bank all night, and in the morning be quite wet and feel badly until he had another drink of whisky, which would make him all right again. "Plenty little boys get whisky in school and get drunk; Little Bolonga was drunk too, and it made her vomit." One of the girls remarked: "Your school is asseba" (bad), whereupon he indignantly threatened, that he would ask Martha to tell the priest, who would then scold her for saying so. There must be some truth in what the boy said, for we were told last Winter that the children of the Nushagak school were sometimes made to drink in order to afford amusement when they are drunk.

July 29.—This has been a lovely day, warm and pleasant. Our Sunday-school and service were held as usual, and this evening the special service for the fishermen. The school-room was filled with fishermen, natives and one Chinaman.

July 31.—Heavy rains fell all day. This evening I overheard Jacob and Ivan trying to get their father to say good-night to them; they were very merry over it.

August 12.—This has again been a lovely, but very warm day. The thermometer indicated 90

degrees. The service this afternoon was followed by the Holy Communion. This evening the school-room was again crowded with fishermen and natives, but of the latter there were not as many as usual.

August 14.—We invited Mr. Louis to supper, as it was his birthday; he seemed very happy. On the table we had the following products of the country, snipe, radishes and blue-berries. Later Brother Wolff kept the evening devotion.

August 15.—The day has been cool and cloudy. We spent much of the time writing. This evening a number of fishermen came up this way for a walk. Presently they saw something—geese, yes, surely geese! So they quickly dropped down in the grass, while one of the number ran for a gun. He was back again very soon, and creeping to within shooting distance, fired at them and wounded two of Brother Wolff's decoy geese! A great roar of laughter followed when the mistake was discovered.

August 16.—This has been a rainy day; merely cloudy at first, but much rain fell during the afternoon and evening. Two fishermen were here to see Brother Wolff this morning, one to have the root of a tooth extracted, and the other to have a dreadfully ulcerated sore on his neck dressed and treated.

August 17.—Two miners arrived from the Kuskokquin, and this afternoon one of them called. He brought us short letters from Bethel; our regular mail from there is expected somewhat later.

August 20.—This evening we had a thunder storm again. Brother Wolff has been very busy building at the sod-hut all day.

August 23.—Towards evening two natives arrived with mail from Bethel. We were very glad they came, for they were just in time. Indeed, if the vessel had left at the time first stated, they would have been too late for this opportunity. Brother Kilbuck writes, that he intends to visit us during the coming Winter. We look forward to the time with much pleasure. The natives who brought the mail must wait for the arrival of the *Pearl*, to see whether there is any mail for Brother Kilbuck. They went to Nushagak this evening.

August 24.—The Kuskokquin natives were here again early this morning, and after breakfast Brother Wolff put up the tent for them. Later on they began to work, digging at the sod-hut of their own accord. Brother Wolff had engaged one man of this village to work, and told him, "take off your parka and work decently." When these strangers saw this they pulled off their parkas too. The one was bare to the waist, and the other entirely naked save his boots. Thus they shoveled quite unconcernedly. Brother Wolff was shocked, and quickly went down to Mr. Louis for some old clothes left by the fishermen. He and Mr. Louis soon returned with an armful, but by the time he came back his energetic workmen were taking a rest with their parkas on again. Of the clothing they would have none, declaring it was "asseduck." Brother Wolff felt disappointed. Later on in the afternoon they came for an armful of split wood. They brought their bidarkas up on the bank and

began to make themselves at home. They caught some snipe, which they cooked for their supper. This evening we went over to examine their bidarkas, and I wish it were possible to describe what we saw; but as I am not equal to it I will just mention some things. They had a good deal of sinew, a few small skins, lots of bone, a little piece of whale-bone, some grass baskets and grass socks (the first we ever saw), rain coats and mittens lined with grass. By this time one of the number had changed his mind about the clothing and asked for some. The other man then also came and asked for a pair of boots. They got them and were greatly pleased as they went away to their tent. They could not rest, however, but had to caper about in their new boots, talking all the time about their good fortune. The difference between our natives and those who come from the Kuskokquin and other places is very striking.

M. E. WOLFF.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., OCTOBER 10, 1888.

Extracts from Letters of Miss Mary Huber.

CARMEL, Alaska, June 13, 1888.

Your letters arrived on May 10. We were expecting the vessel since May 1. On Sunday about midnight, a note was brought to the cannery saying a three-masted schooner lay at the mouth of the river. The river was so full of ice that it was not safe for a large vessel to enter. The men were expected to come in on small boats at high tide, but none came until Tuesday night. Early the next morning a native came from Nushagak all over-heated as though he had run the whole distance. They are very faithful when sent on an errand. We gave him a warm breakfast for which he was glad. Meanwhile Bro. Wolff assorts the letters. I did what was necessary before sitting down to read for I feared the letters would contain the sad news they did.

Mr. Clark was in San Francisco all Winter and has come back with this vessel to put up a new cannery. He will take charge of the new place and we will have a new manager here. We are sorry.

The barrel is not here yet but the things with all the love and sympathy they represent are very welcome. Will you please give our (Bro. and Sister Wolff's and mine) grateful love and thanks to all the dear friends who donated towards the box. We did not think of such a thing as having a box sent to us already this year, although I thought if some people knew how acceptable half-worn clothes would be, they would send us some if the distance were not so great. Then we all knew you helped us very much before I left home, so that we were ashamed to ask. Imagine our pleasure when we found you had already thought of our needs and a box was on the way; all things mentioned were very acceptable and will be used to the best advantage. The natives will prize the

red cotton handkerchiefs; they are the only head dress worn here, except the hood to the parka, and cost fifty cents a piece, which means a great deal to these poor natives who get such small price for their products.

I forgot to tell you about a native mother and baby that we went to see last Sunday. Bro. Wolff was call out to see a young woman who had an ulcer and Sister Wolff went along. She had a baby that was only a few days old. Sister Wolff took a cap, a pair of socks and a tiny cup and saucer for the child. When they came the woman was sitting on the bed; she wore a pair of skin boots. The baby had on a white fur suit all made in one piece, boots, pants, and coat with collar. It was rabbit skin with the fur turned inside. It wore nothing else. The next day the children and I went along. We took a few raised biscuits for the mother. When we came to the hut we stooped to get in, went through the outer apartment, then stooped low to get through the entrance to the inner hut. Here we found the mother sitting with the babe in her lap. It had on a soft gray fur suit. The father was sitting on the edge of the bed sewing a boot I think. In the middle of the room was a low fire, ~~near it stood~~ two black smoky kettles, the one containing a little greasy water in which the salmon had been cooked and the other was the tea kettle. The woman was out in the open air before the child was a week old. These poor people do not know how to take care of themselves and often bring suffering on themselves through their own fault. The place they live in, the food they eat and their imprudence often counteract the good effects of the medicines. They can not know when to take the latter because they have no clocks.

Bro. Wolff is fishing for king-salmon and salting them for the school, and we must dry some too. The natives are very fond of them dried; our boys took some of these for Mack when they had plenty of good food.

JUNE 18, 1888.

The *Dora* sailed into the Nushagak River early yesterday morning and our mail and provisions were brought ashore last evening. The natives unloaded until after midnight. Bro. Wolff was obliged to stay by the provisions on shore until the men had carried them to the house, after two o'clock. The mosquitoes were so plenty last night and this morning that it seemed like a mosquito storm. Mr. Waldron brought his daughter Olga to our school. She is a nice-looking girl twelve years old. Her father, John J. Waldron, is from New York and is the trader at St Michaels now. He will pay something toward her education and provides her clothes. We expect Sophie's sister and two larger boys in Fall but are not certain that they will come. The barrel was brought from Nushagak after all our things were here. We have not unpacked yet.—*Lititz Express.*

MARY HUBER.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., NOVEMBER 21, 1888.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Letters from Miss Huber.

CARMEL, ALASKA, July 29, 1888.

Last week the two girls, Jacob, Ivan and I went for salmon berries. We walked quite a long distance through deep soft moss, and in many places it was swampy besides; we sank in up to our ankles, and sometimes nearly to the top of our boots. The boys were bare-footed and accustomed to the country, so they did not mind it. Jacob, the older boy, said he knew where there were "plenty" berries; he led the way, often running far ahead or turning aside after birds' nests, etc. Then we would call out, "Jabob, where are plenty, plenty berries?" He would then point on in the direction we were to go, so we waded along again. At last we came to the place only to find the berries picked. Poor Jacob looked so disappointed that we almost forgot our own disappointment. We found several quarts after all. We enjoyed the trip but were very tired when we came home.

Some of us went for thimble berries and ~~ear~~ time we fared the same way, but that the road was better. Thimble berries are better than any other berries found here, but all kinds are more perfect than they were last year. The natives do not bring any for sale this year as they did last; we have no calico to exchange. If they do not get what they want, they seem to think it is no use to go for them.

Olga Waldron, our new girl, the trader's daughter from St. Michaels, is thirteen years old, is tall, active and lively; she is anxious to learn to do all kinds of house-work, especially cooking and baking. Her father comes from New York and is accustomed to better housekeeping than the natives practice. Her mother is an Indian and is living yet. Olga is to stay with us three years, and then she is to go home and keep house for her father. She and Sophie take turns in helping to do the housework. One day Olga, with the help of one of the boys, sweeps the kitchen, pares the potatoes, clears the table, washes the dishes, etc., while Sophie helps with the general house work, sews, mends, etc., and the next day the order is reversed. The two girls are almost equal in size and are both half Indians. The boys are brown, have brown eyes and black hair. You would be surprised to see them clear the table and dry and put away the dishes. Sometimes Sophie is rather slow, as such girls are apt to be, then Jacob occasionally slips out and plays until she calls him to come in or she will tell Aunt Mary, when he comes running quickly. They were very obedient at first but now they are spoilt.

August 14, 1888.

This is Mr. Louis Guinther's birthday, and Mr. Wolff asked him to supper and to spend the evening. Mr. Wolff has shot twelve small snipe which

we have fried, besides we have some of our radishes. They are of rather slow growth, having been planted in May, are of the small early red kind, some being long, also some little brown ones. Some are pithy, some woody, and others good—and really all are good no matter how they are. A friendly Chinaman sent us a nice mess of lettuce, but it came too late for supper. Our garden is very good in one respect, it has no weeds, but it has very little else either. The corn, beans and cabbage grew to about three inches and then stopped; turnips grow nicely. Many other vegetables sprouted and thrust their heads out of the ground and that was as far as they ventured. Only a few potatoes grew here, but there is another garden further away where they grow better. We had a few peas.

Our little boy's father is very lame; he came here in the early part of the Summer on hands and feet. It was pitiful to see him, a strong healthy man, so helpless. He became very tired, and had to rest by the way. We gave him his dinner and then Mr. Wolff made a pair of crutches for him, and to our great pleasure he could walk nicely alone. The boys and he were very happy, more so than they could express. Since then he comes every day and does odd jobs; cleans or cuts fish, mends fish nets, makes grass mats, etc. He also made bows and arrows for Marion, Ray and the boys. The latter use theirs faithfully, especially Jacob who takes every spare moment for shooting.

The two boys often go to the bank of the river to shoot snipe. Yesterday afternoon they went without asking and came home very late, wet to the skin, as there were a few showers while they were gone. They were reproved, sent to bed and told to throw their clothes down stairs to be hung by the stove to dry. While the clothes were hanging we thought they smelled badly, and this morning Ivan told us Jacob ran through "plenty grass" and fell in a fish-hole and got "plenty worms" on him, but he quickly brushed them off and cleaned himself as best he could. This is the only such accident they have had. They are usually quite cleanly for boys.

August 17, 1888.

This morning Jacob came with a living snipe that he shot with his bow and arrow. The children were delighted, and carried it around the house. After awhile it was killed; Marion picked it, and the boys are to have it for their dinner.

These children are very fond of nice clothes. When Ivan came he was dressed in a nice little sailor suit made of some old clothes of Mr. Wolff, but when Jacob came there was not much material left, and his clothes were much worn, and we promised ourselves to make better ones as soon as we could. Last week we finished a pair of pants and the week before a coat. I wish you could have seen him. He clapped his hands (when out of sight) and while telling Sophie of his good fortune, straightened himself up, folded his hands and said so he would sit in church the next day.

The boys speak some English and understand more. They can interpret small matters already. We have bright hopes for them, and have become

quite attached to them. They never seem more happy than when they can do something for us. They keep several vases constantly supplied with flowers.

A short time ago Mr. Clark was here and brought letters from Mr. Kilbuck and Mr. Weber, and asked Mr. Wolff to go with him on a trip to the lakes and other places, offering to pay all expense. They will start after the school has begun and the most important work finished, and will be absent about four weeks.

August 18, 1888.

The man who brought the mail called to see us. He is a miner and stayed with Mr. Kilbuck several weeks. They are well, happy and contented. The baby begins to walk. They are very busy, too busy; they were building a large log house 30 feet square, which was almost finished. Mr. Kilbuck had already gone for another raft of logs for another building to be used as a chapel. Mr. Weber with the help of a native carpenter was finishing the school-house. They intended to open school on August 1st. They had fifteen boys during the Summer and in Winter they had thirty-five. Whether they had any day scholars, I do not know. They have no girls. Mrs. Kilbuck had two native women helping her, but one left while the miners were there.

We think in many respects the two missions differ. We have the Greek Catholic opposition which is very strong, deeply rooted and very persistent. But since the Governor of Alaska has been here and has spoken to the Priest and Chief, and has appointed a Justice of the Peace and a Constable to enforce the school law, we hope for better attendance in the future. This opposition may have lost its power. Both officials seem to be in favor of the school. The Constable is Mr. Guinther, or Mr. Louis, as we call him, and Mr. Clark, the trader, is Justice of the Peace. But at the other Mission the natives are not as intelligent and progressive as at ours. The difference is marked.

When the fishermen came Mr. Wolff held services every evening. They came quite regularly, although it often was late before they could leave their work. It seemed to influence the men, for there was a difference in their conduct in general after the meetings were opened. The natives came too, though they could not understand the sermon, they enjoyed the singing. May the good seed sown grow and bear fruit.

I believe that the governor's coming and help and promise of coming again was a direct answer to our prayer that the Lord should make a way for them and incline their hearts to accept His word. Especially, as the natives say now they are coming to school, and seem pleased and glad for the opportunity. If the parents within a certain number of miles do not send their children to school, they will be fined \$5 or will be imprisoned thirty days or both. Mr. Chris Petersen, a fisherman, with whom Mr. Wolff became acquainted when he was here first alone to build our house, is not well and intends to go to San Francisco during the Winter, and will leave his wife and children here. He pre-

pared plenty of fish, oil, tea and clothes, and was going to build a hut for them. He told Mr. Wolff his plans, when the latter proposed that he would let her live in the new Kashima which we are building for the accommodation of our scholars. To this all agreed, and we hope she will be a help to us.

We received the barrel at last in good condition; a few things had gotten wet, but nothing was spoiled. All its contents were very acceptable. Please give our heartfelt thanks to all the dear friends who were so kind and thoughtful of our needs. Everything shall be used to the best advantage. We expect our work to be increased this Winter if the scholars come in as we expect them.

All the fishermen have left, that is, they are on board the vessel. Fish have been very plenty; we have taken all we needed for drying, salting, smoking and canning. The natives have taken quantities for their Winter supply. The canneries have salted and dried, and besides all this it is estimated they canned seven hundred thousand dollars' worth—all taken out of the one river. Isn't it wonderful? Mr. Wolff built a nice, large smoke-house where we expect to smoke venison, etc., this Winter.

MARY HUBER.
—*Lititz Express.*

[APRIL 17, 1889.]

THE ALASKA MISSION.

For THE MORAVIAN.

Extracts from the Journal of the Missionaries at Carmel, Alaska.

CARMEL, Nushagak River, Alaska,

Monday, August 27, 1888.—The school was re-opened to-day; but with only two scholars from the village, in addition to the six from our house. Yesterday and to-day the natives have been celebrating great "branesnicken" (holidays) in Nushagak. Mr. Wolff had requested Mr. Clark to get him a new man to help with the work. Mr. Clark sent a note, saying 'Andre' would come to help, but not until this afternoon after he had been to confession. Late this afternoon the natives returned from their festivities. This evening Mrs. Clark, with her little girl and servant, called here for the first time. She speaks a little English, which she probably learned during her visit in California last Winter. She is a daughter of the Russian Deaconess, Mrs. Orloff.

August 28 was a lovely day. The two native mail-carriers from the Kuskokwim did not wish to stay any longer; so Mr. Wolff sent them with a note to Mr. Clark, asking him to try to induce them to wait. He is better able to make them understand, as he has an interpreter. When the natives returned they said they would wait three days longer. The *Pearl* arrived this morning, and this afternoon we received our mail; so the natives will not be obliged to wait so long after all.

August 29.—This morning Mr. Wolff got the natives ready for their return to the Kuskokwim; he was obliged to go to Nushagak to see

about provisions for their journey. It began to rain this forenoon. When Mr. Wolff returned he told us that the Greek priest had said that if any of the natives come here to our services, they dare no longer be reckoned as members of the Greek Church. The Rev. Wm. Parker, Episcopalian Missionary at Anvik on the Yukon River, arrived with the *Pearl*. He intends to go to St. Michaels via the Kuskokwim and the mail-carriers will probably have to wait for him.

August 31.—About 9 A.M. the Rev. Mr. Parker arrived. We enjoyed his visit very much indeed. He is a zealous worker in the Lord's vineyard. He told us many of his experiences, of his encouragements and trials and difficulties. This evening Mr. Wolff walked to Nushagak with him to see what arrangements were being made for the continuation of his journey. He returned with Mr. Wolff for the night.

September 1.—This morning we were all up early and helped to get Mr. Parker ready for his journey. Mr. Clark induced one of the Kuskokwim natives to sell his one-holed bidarka. Mr. Parker then bought a three-holed bidarka, and this native was to be one of the men to paddle it. When Mr. Wolff returned from Nushagak at noon he told us he had met Mr. Tridikoff, a trader from Lammey Lake, who had with him a son, whom he wishes to send to our school.

September 2.—The weather continues very squally. Held our Sunday-school and service in the study again to-day, as the organ has again been brought in from the school-house.

September 3.—The weather remains about the same as yesterday, only somewhat colder. Mr. Wolff is so very busy and anxious to get the out-of-door work finished before severe weather sets in that I am obliged to relieve him by keeping the school. This afternoon Mr. Tridikoff's boy came with a note from Mr. Clark, saying that the boy's father had left him in our charge. His name is Woscilly, and he is said to be eleven years of age; but is very small and scrawny looking—reminds one more of an older person dried or shriveled to his present state. On his right hand he has two thumbs, the second growing right out of the proper one.

September 4.—To-day Woscilly attended school for the first time. Mr. Wolff sent out a native with a gun, and this afternoon he returned bringing three geese, one duck and seven snipe.

September 7.—Mr. Wolff and three native men still worked at the hut. Poor Mr. Wolff always has the worst of it all, and this evening he felt quite worn out.

September 8.—Early this morning Mr. Wolff shot a goose. He worked with his men at the sod-hut, and afterwards planted the fence posts, which could not be set before on account of the frost in the ground. This evening it was already growing dark when he went with the three little boys to pile up turf. After this was finished he rolled the roof of the hut, and by that time it began to rain.

September 9.—It was raining most all day. Our Sunday-school and service were held as usual.

We spent the evening in reading **THE MORAVIAN**. Just before supper I happened to go out, and as I walked along a peculiar odor seemed to greet me; but as I could see nothing concluded, I was wrong. Then I happened to see one of our boys peeping out from behind the smoke-house. I went to see what they were doing and found the trio looking very guilty indeed, and the smell of vile tobacco unmistakable. Upon inquiring I found that Jacob and Woscilly had indulged, and it seems the new boy furnished the weed. I made it clear to them that they dare not smoke, because it is a very bad habit, injurious to their health, etc., also that they might in this way accidentally set fire to the buildings. They seemed deeply impressed, and promised to do so no more.

September 11.—About 4 A. M. Mr. Wolff left with Mr. Louis and the two men staying here at the cannery during the Winter. They went across the river to the Bradford Cannery to get our coal.

September 12.—This morning after breakfast Aunt Mary, Ivan and I went to feed the five little pigs at the cannery, as the men had gone with Mr. Wolff. About 9 P. M. Mr. Wolff returned, and we were very glad, for we had not dared to expect him back so soon. The wind blew violently, dashing the water in great waves over their little craft. He brought some very, very nice radishes for us.

September 13.—About midnight we were aroused by Mr. Louis, calling Mr. Wolff by our bed-room window. He said Cris's child was very sick, and that they had called for him. He then came immediately for Mr. Wolff who went with him and found the child in very severe pains. Rain fell all night, and this morning the wind subsided.

September 17.—The day has been cold and cloudy. All the village children in attendance at school have dreadful colds. I went home for some old muslin, which I tore into squares about the size of a handkerchief and gave one to each. At the close of the morning session and the opening and close of the afternoon session I gave to each a liberal dose of horehound tea; it was rather strong, and I could not help feeling amused at the wry faces they made. Mr. Wolff is still working in the hut; making tables, benches, etc. This afternoon Jacob wanted to go out after grouse. Aunt Mary told him to wait until after supper; whereupon he said, "After supper black, then me no see grouse."

September 18.—This morning Mr. Wolff attended eight sick patients in the village, Agnnesga, one of our little scholars being amongst the number. Towards evening she was very much worse, and they again sent for Mr. Wolff. He was not at home, so I put on my things and went in search of him, and soon found him at work at some lumber near the cannery. He came with me immediately, and we both went to see the little sufferer. We found her very sick indeed, we thought with pneumonia.

September 19 was a clear, but cold and windy day. The sick ones in the village seem to be improving, but here in the house the number on the

sick list is increasing. Jacob has the mumps and Sophia and Ulga have severe colds.

September 20.—This morning the thermometer stood at the freezing point, and some snow seems to have fallen on the mountains to the north. This morning Judas' mother came, and brought Agnnesga to school. We were surprised, for the child, although improving, was far from well, and should not by any means have been taken out in this cold weather. O! these poor neglected children, if we only had a proper place to keep them. When the school reopened this very woman was determined not to allow this little girl to attend. That she brought her to us herself now, appears as though she had laid aside her prejudice. This evening Jacob was very sick, and Ulga is beginning too with the mumps. Ray has a very bad cold too.

September 21.—This has been a lovely but cold day, and this morning ice was formed on the window-sills for the first time this season. This evening Mr. Wolff dealt out four quarts of horehound tea to the natives in the village; they all have dreadful colds.

September 22.—The day has again been lovely; but it was hard and nerve-trying to keep all these children, who are sick with colds, etc., indoors. This evening Mr. Wolff took Andrew, the father of Jacob and Ivan, into the school-room, and had him take a good bath, and then dress into warm, although well mended clothes. He has well earned this attention, for, lame as he is, he has for some time past, sawed and split wood from early morning until night. He was never told to do it, and yet has worked far more faithfully than any of the natives have thus far even when they have been hired and well paid for it.

September 26.—The day has again been fine. Mr. Wolff began to paint the house (last coat). Charlie, who attended school last Winter, came again to-day, and seemed very glad to be back.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., APRIL 24, 1889.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

For THE MORAVIAN.

Extracts from the Journal of the Missionaries at Carmel, Alaska.

CARMEL, Nushagak River, Alaska.

[CONTINUED.]

September 29.— The day has been lovely, and Mr. Wolff painted a great deal. Immediately after breakfast Mr. Wolff sent Simeon to Nushagak, with a note explaining what he was to bring and the admonition to be sure and hurry back. Judas asked permission to go with him, as he wanted to do some buying for his mother. The day passed, and night came on, and yet the boys had not returned. About 9 P.M. Judas came, bringing the things Simeon had been sent for. He was accompanied by a native, who is said to come from the Kuskokwim (we doubt this how-

ever). When we asked Judas where Simeon was, he appeared to be troubled, and at a loss as to what he should say; but at last he told us Simeon was way out on the river in a scow. Simeon is in our particular charge as a regular boarder, and was besides especially engaged to-day for this errand. Mr. Wolff went down to Mr. Louis at once to see whether anything could be done. He had just started to come home again, when he thought he heard some one coughing in the neighborhood. He looked about, and sure enough, there was a man in a boat. Just then Judas, and his strange companion arrived, bringing Simeon's parka, boots, etc. So it seems he had been commissioned to get some additional clothing for him. This too then explained why Judas refused to sleep in the hut for the night. Mr. Wolff ordered Judas to go home, and he then went once more to Mr. Louis, who had by this time become thoroughly excited and concluded to take a skiff and pursue them. A shot was fired from on board the scow, so as to direct the little boat supposed to bring Judas and the clothing.

September 30.—Mr. Louis pursued our truant Simeon in vain last night, as the scow was crossing the river and the tide changed before Mr. Louis could get near enough. "Andre" from Nushagak came to grind his axe. Mr. Wolff told him it was Sunday, and he could not grind his axe until to-morrow. He invited him to come in which he gladly did, and thus he happened to be present during our Sunday-school session and service. Judas, Charlie, Sophie, Andrew, and Mr. Louis were also present.

October 1.—The day was fine but cold. This morning little Eva came to school with barely any clothing on besides her parka, and she was altogether so filthy that we concluded to wash and dress her and little Agnuesga after school this afternoon. Little A. was at school to-day again for the first time since her sickness. We sent for her mother, who readily consented to have the little girl clothed and stay here. Poor little Eva did not fare so well. When her mother arrived, there was a great scene. She would not allow the child to be washed and dressed, much less to stay here. The poor child had at first been delighted with the idea; but was now so frightened, that she could do nothing but cry. We told them we would certainly not dress her if they did not wish it. They promised to continue to send her to school, so we dismissed them. Agnuesga is to stay here in the house with the other children at present.

October 2.—Our new little charge slept very well last night, and was very bright this morning. After school this afternoon I took her with Ulga and Marion for a walk, stopping on our way for a few minutes to see the little girl's mother, who was very pleasant and seemed to feel justly proud of her little girl. When we walked along the beach in the sand, her mother came and sat on the edge of the beach and watched us for a short time. The sun shone so pleasantly in our faces that we did not notice the dark clouds rising behind us, and when we turned to go back, the

storm was already upon us. We got the full benefit of it, and in spite of walking very fast were well drenched. This evening Agnuesga seemed to be growing homesick, and at bed-time she cried very much. We tried all our persuasive powers to the utmost; but she would not be comforted. Finally, however, she fell asleep. Mr. Louis spent the evening here.

October 3.—Raining all day, and we are thankful, for our cistern was just about empty. Agnuesga was very bright and happy this morning, and we hoped the worst of her homesickness was over. Her sister came to see her before school this morning and again this afternoon, and looked so bright and happy that we did not dream any trouble. A little later her mother came; and we noticed by a first glance at her face that some ill wind was blowing. She complained that she could not sleep; because she felt so troubled, on account of letting her little girl stay here. No amount of persuading was of any avail, her mind was set to take the child home, and we saw it was useless to resist, so we told her she could go. We have great reason to believe that the poor woman was hotly persecuted for leaving the child with us.

October 4.—Still raining all day. While we were at breakfast this morning Mr. Louis came, and told us Alexander's wife died last night. She has for some time past been very miserable with consumption. One of the native families of this village have a girl, who came to school for some days, after the re-opening, but was then taken away and sent to some other village. She has now been back again, secreting for some days, however, and always keeps well hid about school-time. To-day Mr. Wolff found her rather unexpectedly at card-playing in a neighbor's hut. He got her out, and made her go to school. About 30 minutes later her mother came and asked for the girl, saying she must sew. Mr. Wolff told her, as she had plenty of time for card-playing she could be spared well enough for school too. All manner of excuses are made use of to keep the children from school. This afternoon the priest from Nushagak was here in the village to officiate at the funeral of the woman who died last night. The children in the school-room were very much excited, and so afraid the "Cussock" (priest) would see them, that they moved away from the windows, and Judas showed how very fast his heart beat. He said if the priest would see him here, he would surely beat him. This afternoon Mr. Louis brought us some fresh fish—some pike and whitefish.

October 11.—This morning Mr. Wolff received a note from Mr. Clark asking him to come to Nushagak to attend to the Chief who had nearly shot his hand off. He went immediately and returned at 5 P.M. The Chief at his own request was brought here to this village with the evening tide, so as to be close at hand for Mr. Wolff's treatment. The accident happened by the explosion of a shell which he held in his left hand while trying to remove a cap. It took the second finger quite off and shattered his hand very much. The flesh is all torn off to the bone on the one side of the first finger.

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October 13.—Mr. Clark and Mr. Edge attended service to-day.

October 19.—This morning the ground was covered with snow. Two new scholars entered the school to-day, Befim and Paulina.

October 22.—Mr. Wolff began to teach school again.

October 26.—When Mr. Wolff rang the bell for school in the village this morning he found that Dalhia was very sick. Indeed she may not have many more days to live. She is a native woman and the wife of a white man—a Norwegian named Cris Petterson, who has gone to San Francisco for the Winter on account of ill-health. She was at present living with her aunt, in a most miserable hut in this village. Her bed was on the ground, merely divided from the main part of the hut by a log. She had nothing under her but a grass mat, and an old deer-skin, and another thin grass mat to protect her from the bare ground wall. There she lay wasting away with consumption, unable to care for herself, and uncared for by those about her. She was indeed a most pitiable sight—not only wasted by disease, but also from the actual want of food and proper nourishment. She was very weak in the afternoon when she was brought here, and we feared she would not live through the night.

October 27.—The night passed better with Dalhia than we had dared to hope; she seems, however, to continue much the same as yesterday.

October 30.—The weather was very changeable to-day, rain, snow and sunshine following each other in rapid succession. I was again obliged to open the school to-day as Mr. Wolff was absent—attending to the sick. Our house-patient seemed to be a little better to-day. Mr. Clark sent 10 pounds of tea, 25 pounds of sugar, and 200 dried fish as a donation for our school.

October 31.—The weather was fine to-day and the children used their little sleds for the first time this season. Dalhia seemed to be a little better to-day, and requested a second time that we should cut her hair. We were very willing to do this for her, because her hair were so badly matted that it was impossible to comb it.

November 2.—Some rain fell during the night; but this morning the clouds disappeared and the sun shone bright and warm again. Dalhia continues about the same, only that her bed-sores are more painful.

November 3.—Last night the wind blew a perfect gale, and to-day it is very cold and cloudy. Dalhia seemed rather worse, and needed a great deal more attention.

November 4.—Snowing and blowing all day, in regular blizzard style. We spent the day as usual. Dalhia was still suffering considerably.

November 5.—The day was cold and dreary. Dalhia seemed to be somewhat easier. This afternoon her sister Sophie came to see her, bringing "little Cris" with her. Poor little boy, he was so glad to see his mother. He is about two and one-half years old.

November 6.—The day was very cold and dreary, the wind blowing violently, and towards evening snow began to fall.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., MAY 1, 1889.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

For THE MORAVIAN.

Extracts from the Journal of the Missionaries at Carmel, Alaska.

[CONTINUED.]

CARMEL, Nushagak River, Alaska.

November 7.—The day was fair; but cold and windy. Dalhia seemed to be sinking decidedly to-day.

November 8.—The day was fair and cold. Dalhia seems to be much weaker, but does not seem to have as much pain as before.

November 9.—The day was cold and dreary. Dalhia rested pretty well throughout the night, and this morning seemed much as usual, only very much weaker; but about 10.30 A.M a great change came upon her very suddenly. We called her nearest relatives, and in less than an hour all was over. She passed away very quietly; and was quite conscious to the end. She wanted Mr. Wolff to pray, and upon being asked, said she was glad to go to Jesus. She seemed very glad to have some one talk to her about heaven and Jesus, and upon one occasion said she wanted me to teach her "little Cris" about Jesus too, so that by-and-by he could go to heaven too. She also wanted me to take care of her little boy after her death. The poor little fellow stood at her bedside saying "Mamma, mamma," in all childish glee, little realizing that she was leaving him to return no more. The corpse was placed in the school-room and many natives came to look once more at the remains. The men at the cannery made the coffin, which was neatly lined on the inside with muslin and covered on the outside with blue drill, and a cross of white ribbon on the lid. We made her a shroud and trimmed the inside of the coffin with fine soft evergreens. We also placed a wreath of the same on the coffin.

Saturday, November 10.—To-day the funeral of Dalhia took place at 2 P.M. Quite a number of natives came to see the remains once more; but only about twenty stayed to the funeral. Some remained outside and would not come in, because they are strictly forbidden by the Greek priest at Nushagak to attend any of our services. Some of those who did attend, turned their faces away. How deeply we regretted our inability to speak to the natives in their own language. There are quite a number, however, who are able to understand some English.

November 22.—The day was very fine, but cold. About noon Mr. Clark came from Nushagak to take some photographs of our house.

November 29.—Thanksgiving-day was bright and fair. We prepared an extra dinner for all the school children; but found upon inquiry that they had been ordered to Nushagak by the Greek priest. We therefore had Andrew (the boy's

father) to come here to eat his dinner with the boys, and he did enjoy it, I am sure. Late this evening the village children who attend school had returned from Nushagak, so we invited them into the hut to partake of a (to them) grand supper. Mr. Louis and Mr. Powers took supper with us. Our Thanksgiving service was held this evening.

December 9.—The day was cloudy, but mild. This afternoon five men from the canneries attended service, took supper with us and stayed to Sunday-school. We have been keeping our Sunday-school session in the evening for some time already, so as to give the boys living in the hut an opportunity of attending after they have returned from Nushagak where they usually go to church every Sunday. This evening Brauka, Simeon, and Woscilly (the latter from Nushagak) came; but would not kneel in prayer. Brauka happened to sit beside Ray, and when we were already kneeling, he noticed that Brauka did not kneel, so he began to beg him to get on his knees too; but he rigidly kept his seat in spite of the child's entreaties. O! how we long for the day when they shall no longer fear to kneel with us in prayer.

December 15.—Some snow fell and the day was dark and dreary. This evening Mr. Louis came to tell us that eight dog-teams had passed on the beach to Nushagak. There were three white men, and a number of native attendants from the Yukon River. Mr. Louis inquired at once whether they had seen or heard anything of our missionaries on the Kuskokwim, and he understood the man to say that the missionary from there was on his way hither now. Of course, it may all be a misunderstanding too; for this bit of information was given in the greatest haste, as the man had merely stopped to take a drink of water; still we can not help wondering whether Bro. Kilbuck is really on the way to Carmel.

December 16.—The day was cloudy, but very cold. Mr. Louis and Mr. Jonson attended service and Sunday-school. Another sled arrived to-day with a miner from the north, who told Mr. Louis that the party who passed yesterday was an English lord. He also reported that Bro. Kilbuck is on his way hither. We hope, if it is really true, that he may arrive in time to spend Christmas with us.

Christmas Eve, December 24.—The weather was unfavorable, rain falling fast and steadily until towards evening. The snow is disappearing very fast and the roads are bad. Mr. Louis came up early this morning to help with the preparations for to-night. The tree in the school-house was put up and trimmed on Saturday. This afternoon a native arrived from Nushagak with a note from the English lord, Earl of Lonsdale, expressing his regret at not being able on account of a heavy cold, and the inclemency of the weather to attend the entertainment to-night. Mr. Clark also sent a note of regret. We had planned to give an entertainment this evening in the school-house, and had for a long time past practiced and drilled the native children; imagine, then, our

feelings, when the appointed time came for the scholars to arrive, and none made their appearance. It did not take long, however, to discover that the Greek priest was again at the bottom of this also. He had actually managed to induce all the children, (with the exception of those who remain right here in the house,) to stay away. Some of the children were locked up, and others were for safety's sake taken to Nushagak in spite of the inclemency of the weather. Our entire number, therefore, consisted of eight native men, our three friends staying at the cannery, and the inmates of the Mission-house. We spent a very happy Christmas Eve, in spite of our new disappointment; and how could we help being happy, when we once more began to sing of our blessed Saviour's birth? How could we sing "Peace on earth, good-will to men," without feeling assured that He who came into this world to save us, would also deliver us from out of the hands of our enemies. All who were present received a lighted candle and a bag of cakes, the children received a mouth-organ besides. After the exercises were over the tree still looked heavily laden, for we had prepared for many; because last year at Christmas, we were visited by very many more. Later in the evening we held a love-feast here in the house, which we all enjoyed very much. Mr. Louis had been missing for some time; but now he suddenly came out from the study, and the children, and all, were invited in to see the beautiful Christmas tree, all lighted with wax-tapers. There was great rejoicing amongst the children—two of the boys had never seen a Christmas-tree before.

December 25.—The day was again dark and dreary, although very little rain fell. Our three friends from the cannery were with us all day. This morning all were again summoned to the study, where the presentation of gifts took place. At 1 P.M. Mr. Edge and Mr. Gunderson came from Nushagak to take dinner with us. We had extended an invitation to all the white men in the neighborhood; but many could not come on account of the unfavorable weather. We held our Christmas service as usual.

December 26.—The day was fair, and it did us good to see the sun shining again. This evening our three neighboring friends came bringing with them two men from the Bradford cannery across the river. They had started out at 4 A.M. on the 24th inst., expecting to be here in time for our entertainment; but were detained by the heavy rains. Mr. Wolff entertained all with a magic-lantern exhibition.

December 27.—This afternoon we were suddenly and very agreeably surprised to find Bro. Kilbuck had come. He brought with him three native men, nine dogs and a sled. Of course, we knew from his letter in the Fall that he intended to visit us some time this Winter. When, therefore, the party from the north who arrived on December 15 reported his coming, we supposed he intended being with us at Christmas; but that time had now come and gone, and this party for all did not know for certain whether he really was on

the way or not, we concluded that we need not look for him before the end of January; but here he is with us now, and we can hardly realize it. He told us that he was within sight of our house on the afternoon of December 25, but could not get here on account of the rain. He traveled hard all day until about 1 or 2 o'clock in the afternoon, when he arrived at one of the canneries on the other side of the river. The river can not be crossed here, as the channel is open all Winter. In order to cross travelers must go up the river for twenty miles, where the ice becomes solid. Christmas-day it still rained a little, and was very slushy and as a great deal of lowland must be crossed to get here, and much water had gathered there during the rain, he was obliged to wait till the 26th, when it was cold enough and the ice was sufficiently formed to make traveling possible. How providential it was that we had just that one cold day, to allow Bro. Kilbuck to continue his journey: for it was mild and rained again to-day.

December 28.—It is raining still. The Brethren Kilbuck and Wolff spent the entire day in "sight-seeing." They went about everywhere, upstairs, and downstairs, in and out of the house, looking at everything, and talking about—I believe it would be hard to tell what. This evening we all settled down in the sitting-room to hear some more of Bro. Kilbuck's experiences.

December 31.—The weather was rather more cheerful to-day and the Brethren went to Nushagak with dogs and sled, returning about dusk. This evening we held a short service and love-feast at which twenty-one in all, were present. We were a mere family gathering when the old year, which had been so full of rich blessings and mercies, passed away, and the New Year entered with its still unopened pages before us. M. E. W.

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THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., FEBRUARY 20, 1889.

For THE MORAVIAN.

Extracts from the Journal of Bro. Ernst Weber,
Bethel, Alaska.

June 8, 1888.—This morning we went up the bay as far as the captain thought we dared to go with our vessel. We waited all day for the traders to come down to the vessel with the small boats. In the afternoon the traders sent one of the natives out with a letter to make sure that it was one of the company's vessels. We are still at least ten miles from shore. I wrote a note to Brother Kilbuck, and sent it back with the native.

June 9.—This morning, about 2 o'clock, Brother Kilbuck and the traders came out to the vessel with four large boats. Brother Kilbuck had the mission boat, or rather scow. Sister Kilbuck and children are at the ware-house. We had a hard time getting to shore with our loads, for the wind was unfavorable; so we did not make it with the first tide, but had to wait for the second.

It is very difficult to get to shore on account of the mud-flats. We stuck fast a number of times. I had quite an experience on this my first trip. We had run into one of these mud-flats. The wind was blowing very hard, so that it tipped the boat over on its side; and water and mud began to splash over its side. We had to jump about lively, pull down the sails and set the boat aright. We arrived at the shore about 8 o'clock in the evening. Sister Kilbuck had supper ready, and as I had eaten nothing since 5 o'clock in the morning the supper tasted splendid to me.

June 10.—This is my first Sunday in Alaska. We still have eighty miles to go yet up the river to Bethel. It is a real warm day, but the mosquitoes are fearful! We had to have a low fire in the store-house, all day, so as to smoke these pests. Otherwise we could not have worked.

June 11.—This morning we broke up camp and started up the River. Mrs. Kilbuck and the children went with Mr. Lind in one of the skin boats, for it is more comfortable riding in these; and at the same time can make more progress, for when it is impossible to sail, oars can be used. The ware-house is not on the Kuskokwim River, but is on a small river, somewhat farther down on the coast, where the boats can be protected from the storms while lying at anchor. We had contrary winds, and so had a hard time getting out of the small river. We had to take the rope to the shore, and one of the boys and I pulled the boat along until run aground on a mud-flat, when we had to go on board and stay all night.

June 12.—This morning we started with favorable wind and made better time. We did not stop all night. Brother Kilbuck would steer three or four hours, and then I would relieve him for the same length of time.

June 13.—This morning we drifted down the river a good ways before we found it out. The current was stronger than the wind, and consequently we went backwards.

In the afternoon we had a fine breeze, and I think we would have arrived at Bethel, if we had not run into a wrong river. In the evening we thought we were going around one of the islands and it proved to be the main land, so went on up this branch.

June 14.—This morning some of the natives came and told us that we were on the wrong river, so we had to turn back. We did not get back to the mouth of this branch until 2 P. M., and in the evening we were obliged to drop anchor, as there was no air stirring. Sometimes we have a good meal, and then for several times we scarcely have anything. Whenever we have the chance we buy eggs and fish, and then we have a feast. We would send the two native boys on shore to boil some tea and fish. They cut the fish up into pieces about four inches long, boil them in a kettle, undressed; but that made no difference, for we were so hungry that they tasted splendid to us.

Mr. Kilbuck gives a needle for a dozen of eggs, but about one-half are usually bad.

June 15.—We tried to sail several times to-day, but the wind is so low that we hardly stir. We are only about twelve miles from Bethel, and it is so trying not to be able to get home. It is the worst day that I have had. The mosquitoes are so troublesome that they almost drive me wild. . . . We hoped to get home by to-night, but the wind went down entirely, so we made no head-way. Toward evening some natives came with a three-holed bidarka from the station to take our places, and let us go ou home. Sister Kilbuck had arrived at Bethel about 6 P. M. and sent these natives. Brother Kilbuck and I sat in the center hole of the bidarka, and a native paddled each end. It is very interesting to see these natives paddle. They have a paddle about three and one-half feet long. The boat is very narrow, and a person must sit right on the flat bottom. We shoot along at a rapid rate. We had about five miles to go, and arrived at Bethel at 11 o'clock to-night.

June 16.—Our scow reached here about the middle of the morning. We were very busy all morning and afternoon too storing away the goods. There were lots of natives about all day; all were willing to help, for they thought they would likely get something for their trouble. They can be hired for next to nothing. But they are by no means fools; they are a great deal smarter than I expected. This morning, the first thing, I had to put on a sort of screen ovr my head to keep the mosquitoes off. I must wear glovcs all the time.

June 17.—This is my first Sunday at Bethel. We did not rise until late this morning. It has been one of the *fine* days. The natives about here were all real quiet, and all came in to see the new white man—the Cassock, as they call us. I am living in the log-house, and Brother Kilbucks are living in the frame building. One of the rooms in my house we use for a store-room. My room is about 12x14 feet, and is quite cozy inside. It is papered and looks almost like a room in the States. I think I will feel at home here in my room, for here I can sing, read and play on my harmonica to my heart's content. I go over to the other house for my meals. We had service this evening at 6 o'clock. There were seventeen present. We opened the service by singing "Sa-viour like a Shepherd lead us;" afterwards we sang "Shall we gather at the River;" then Brother Kilbuck led in prayer—read the Scripture lesson—we sang another song—then we all joined in repeating the Lord's Prayer. Afterwards the boys sang the Lord's Prayer in their own language. Then we were dismissed with the singing of the Doxology.

Brother Kilbuck and wife and I spent the whole evening in song.

June 18.—I was busy all day putting away canned goods. This is not such a monotonous country as one would think. When we were coming up the river I saw some really fine-looking country. There is considerable timber, mostly young cotton-wood trees, very thick, making the shore quite dense.

The houses here in Bethel all face the river, and right around our houses it is quite dry; there are so many chips of the logs which have been hewed. The river about here is all channels and islands. The first channel is quite narrow—perhaps 75 to 100 feet in breadth, and then comes an island about half a mile long, which is often covered with water too, but is at present covered with a sort of swamp grass about two feet high. We can see the outlines of some mountains about twenty miles southeast of here. On all sides of the river, a wide expanse of prairie greets the eye. The ground, from a distance looks green, and on closer observation is found to have a very thin growth of grass on it, but is also covered with a queer sort of moss. The soil is quite spongy, and it seems as though one was going in mud up to one's ankles; but as soon as the foot is raised the ground raises to its original height.

It is about sixty feet from the river bank to the frame house. The bank is twclve feet deep to the beach. Whenever we go to Mr. Lind's store we walk along the beach. I went there with some of the men and the cart I brought along from Ounalaska, to fetch some goods down to our store-room. Mr. Lind brought them from the ware-house for us. I also got eighteen logs up the river, made a raft of them, and two natives brought them down to our house. The cart is very convenient. We take the box off, then balance the logs on it, and push them to the desired place, thus saving much heavy lifting.

We had a heavy thunder shower this afternoon; this is the third thunder shower since I am here; Brother Kilbuck says they only heard it thunder once before since they have been in Alaska.

For THE MORAVIAN.
Extracts from the Journal of Bro. Ernst Weber,
Bethel, Alaska.

Feb 27 *1889.*
[CONCLUDED.]

June 19.—To-day I was busy all day making furniture for my room. I made a table, and put a wash-tub together. A missionary must be a "jack-of-all-trades."

The people in the States think that the natives are not worried by the mosquitoes; but they are; for they always have a fire burning and sit in the smoke. When they work they put a screen on just as we must do. Bro. Kilbuck says that they are glad for Winter just to get rid of these pestering creatures. It is warmer now than it generally is at this time of the year. The thermometer has been as high as 70 and 74 since I am here.

June 20.—To-day I made a book-shelf. It is to be a large one—7 feet high, and is to have seven shelves. It is made out of 8-inch boards, of a red wood which when planed looks well. I do all my carpenter work in my room; of course it makes a disorder, but toward evening I clean up and have things looking cozy for the evening.

Mr. Lind is away up the river on business; his wife is sick, so the natives do not come around much. We have a good many sick people this Spring. There are two or three here every day

for medicines; it takes much of Bro. Kilbuck's time to wait on them.

June 21.—Bro. Kilbuck has to visit Mrs. Lind twice every day now. I manufactured a chair for my room to-day, and made a set of shelves for Sister Kilbuck. The boys are out every night, fishing.

June 22.—To-day, with two of the boys I made fish-racks to dry fish in. The boys catch large king salmon fish. We tried to set posts for the rack; the frost is out of the ground only for about ten inches. It is next to impossible to raise anything here, for there is no real soil. Next year we are going to plant a little garden on the island, where Bro. Kilbuck says there is a little soil.

June 23.—The men caught lots of fish last night; it keeps two women busy dressing them; whilst I salt them down. A good many we hang up to dry. Alexi-man and his wife Mattie had been gone for a long time, but returned to-day. We have a good bit of help now.

June 24.—We had service this evening; there were eighteen present. I will be glad when I can talk a little of the Esquimau language, so that I can speak to these people about Christ.

June 25.—Bro. Kilbuck is busy every day looking after his patients—seeing that the boys do their work right, etc. I was working at the house and making shelves all day. The woman who came for medicine a few days ago died last night.

June 27.—This was a good day for fishing; the boys caught 66 fish. I was making a table.

June 28.—The boys caught over 80 fish to-day; but they were all small salmon weighing from 10 to 20 pounds. We worked at the new house to-day. I had my first experience hewing logs and fitting them. We have the house high enough to put on the cross-pieces for the ceiling. We are anxious to get done by the first of August, so that we can keep school in it. The wolves were howling at a great rate to-night. The sun does not go down until half after nine; and I read until eleven o'clock without a light. I forgot to say, that when we plane the logs, we use a "double plane," that is, one which is used by two men and cuts two ways. It works fine. Two miners came here to-day from the Yukon River. Sister Kilbuck hurried around and got them dinner; they are going to stay about until Mr. Lind comes down the river again, which will be at least ten days yet. The miners are on their way to Nushagak, so we can send a message along to Bro. Wolff.

June 30.—A goodly number of natives were here to-day, who want to trade six dollars worth of furs for muslin or drilling. We had none to trade, so could not deal with them. I traded one of my thimbles off, though, for 20 pounds of dried fish.

July 1.—This was quite a cool day; a north-west wind is blowing and the mosquitoes are not so bad. We held service; had about twenty present; it seemed more like Sunday than ever before to me.

July 4.—We were working at the house the past few days; it is going to be made 24 feet square. The weather is getting quite cool—regular Fall weather.

This is the "Fourth of July." It did not seem much like it though. I shot off my gun several times this morning, and we put up the American flag which a lady so kindly sent from the States last Spring. One of the boys rang the bell for a long time, and that was the extent of our celebration.

July 5.—This has been the first rainy day of the season; Bro. Kilbuck says we will probably have rain off and on every day for a while. The boys came home with 50 large salmon to-day.

July 7.—It has rained the last three days. Mr. Lind returned last night. He had bad luck. They ran into a snag with one of the skin boats and put a hole through one side. The boat went under before they could get to shore, but every thing was saved. Ten barrels of sugar and a lot of crackers were damaged. Bro. Kilbuck and I went up to the "Post" and took a sweat-bath; this is the first time I ever took such a bath. These sweat-houses are built air tight; and have a fire-place, something like in a blacksmith shop, made of stone. A large fire is made in this fire-place, so hot that the stones get almost red hot; then some water is thrown over them, and the air gets as hot as a bake-oven. I think it is a fine thing here.

medicine. Sister Kilbuck is kept busy giving medicine. Our women, who helped with the work are on a strike. We have had three or four women all along to help with the fish and to do sewing, etc., but they get a quarreling among themselves and so leave. Alexi and Mattie want to go away as soon as Bro. Kilbuck returns. Alexi has a running sore on his hip and can do nothing and so wants to go back to his own village.

The children are lots of company to me and I do enjoy being with them. Alexi's father came down to-day; he saw Bro. Kilbuck go up the river, so he came down to keep us company. He hurried down to-night, so that he could get a cup of tea to-night yet. The natives think as much of a cup of tea as some of our people do, in the States, of their glass of beer.

July 14.—To-day the two miners started off. They were not as lucky this year as last in their search for gold. The traders on the Yukon are too high priced; they charged the miners \$8 for a sack of flour and other things in proportion.

June 15.—This is little Katie's birthday. I was over to the other house with Sister Kilbuck almost all day. I kept service this evening as Bro. Kilbuck is still away. It was my first service, and I must say I enjoyed it. There were twenty-seven present. There were thirteen people here for medicine. It keeps Sister Kilbuck very busy as I have not learned the different medicines yet.

July 16.—A native came this morning from Bro. Kilbuck with a note saying that very few building logs could be found along the river. When you consider that all our rafters and, in short, all our building material must be hewn from round timbers, you can imagine what a long work it is to build a house. We are working very hard whenever we can, to finish our house before August the first, when we will open the school.

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July 17.—The natives were thick about here to day; it is raining all day; still I and Pilecopy worked at the house. I bandaged a man to-day who came with two ugly boils. The weather is getting quite cool, and the mosquitoes are getting less; but oh! it requires a great deal of patience to keep everything moving!

July 19.—Bro. Kilbuck came home last night about twelve o'clock. He found very few building logs, but brought a raft of firewood along.

I was out for a boat ride this evening; this is the second time that I took a ride in a birch canoe. I paddled for an hour and a half and enjoyed the ride very much, as it is the only place I can go away from home here.

July 20.—This has been a very dark day for me; I felt lonely; but after I read the text and raised my heart to prayer, I felt the nearness of the Saviour and it was a comfort to me to feel that the Lord is near—it matters not where we are.

July 21.—It is windy and cloudy to-day, as it had been ever since the Fourth of July, almost. To-day we put the sheeting on the roof. You ought to see Pilecopy and his wife! They are the aristocratic natives on the Kuskokwim. Pilecopy is our carpenter and has had more experience with white people than the rest. He thinks he is much better than the average native. I gave him my old gray coat, Bro. Kilbuck gave him an old vest and Sister Kilbuck some calico collars, and you may believe he is dressed up on Sundays with his blue overalls, etc. The natives are very fond of bread made from wheat flour. We give each one a piece and a cup of tea twice a day. Bro. Kilbuck gave each one of the boys a piece of onion the other day, but that was too much for them; they could not keep it down, but rushed for the door.

July 25.—For the past few days we have been shingling and flooring our house. It is quite a

work to put a floor in a house. First we split the logs and then plane them off. The natives have a way of splitting logs that is quite ingenious; they can split logs almost as straight as though they were sawed.

July 27.—Bro. Kilbuck is going to take the nail down the river to-day, so I will have to close my journal. I hope this will find you all as well as it leaves me. I am getting quite fleshy, for we have so much fresh meat, as wild ducks, geese and fish. I am, in short, as well and comfortable as I could possibly be here in Alaska.

Affectionately,

ERNST L. WEBER.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., NOVEMBER 28, 1888.

ALASKA.

The Journal of Mrs. Kilbuck, Bethel, Alaska,

From Brother Joseph Romig, Sister Kilbuck's father, we have received under date of November 11, the following:

In a copy of THE MORAVIAN I notice that you have received no Autumn mail from Bethel, Alaska. We here received mail about September 28, post-marked August 28, and in this my daughter states that they had no time to write at any length for THE MORAVIAN, and that I should make and send you extracts. This I should have done sooner, but I have been kept too busy at Autumn work; besides I saw you still had "copy" from Carmel.

Under date of June 12 she writes:

"We are now on our way home and I must go back and tell you how we enjoyed our stay at the ware-house. Leaving home on the 5th we arrived at the ware-house on the 7th, and found Bro. Kilbuck at anchor and ready to welcome us. (I came down in Mr. Lind's bidarra and am now going back with him, as it is more comfortable riding in a bidarra than in the "Scow.") After landing the tents were soon pitched and dinner started. We set up two large store boxes in the ware-house, and so made quite a comfortable table upon which we and the traders ate our meals. I sliced cold boiled ham and bread, and served butter, jelly, gingerbread and other cake, while Mr. Denentoff and Mr. Hyman made tea and boiled eggs. We enjoyed the meal very much as we did all subsequent ones, which were managed very much in the same way, with a change of game and soup or pancakes when Mr. Hyman chose to bother with them. After dinner I cleared the table, and Mr. Denentoff and Hyman washed the dishes while I went out amongst the natives, to look for my babies.

The natives; that is, the bidarra crews were a lively set, squatted around a large fire, frying flapjacks in seal oil. They were in their glory. Generally there were three frying pans kept going in order to supply twenty-three hungry mouths. Added to the flapjacks were seal flipper, so strong that they could keep an army at bay, and whale blubber in all its glory and fat. Then came eggs, some good, some not good, and some that were not eggs any longer.

Shinygamute looked quite lively when we were there. A good sized village has sprung up since we first landed at the place and then were added our seven tents and two large piles of furs, with two bidarras and our Scow close by at anchor. This made it the most important place on the Kuskokwim.

The vessel came in the same day we landed, and was seen early the next morning. We were thankful not to be kept waiting long, for the mosquitoes were nothing short of terrible. Mr. Sipary sent out a messenger in the morning, who returned in the evening with the mail and also with the news that it was none other than the company's vessel. First we looked at an unstamped letter which was from Brother Weber, and, glad as we were that some one was sent, it was no small disappointment to me when no woman came along. I confess to shedding a few tears, but since then I try not to be so foolish. I only hope we may all keep well this coming year, for Brother Kilbuck expects to be gone from home a good part of the time. Bro. Weber will teach school, but it will be one more added to the family and I do not see that it will be any easier for me this coming Winter, but Brother Weber will doubtless be a great help to Brother Kilbuck and that is of greatest importance now.

But I am way off from my subject. We only glaneed at Bro. R. de Schweinitz's letter, and then every body except myself—the children and a native boy (Ivan), started for the vessel with the ebb tide. I closed the tent, put the children to bed, and then tried to read some letters, but the children were so tormented by the swarms of mosquitoes that I was obliged to keep them away with a bush, while lying by me were sixty-five letters. This I did nearly all night, and you do not know how hard it was to do so. I thought I must look at some of the letters, but as sure as I took up one, the children would waken. The next morning I saw the bidarras and Seow coming and I hastened to get breakfast. Brother Kilbuck got fast on a mud bank and did not arrive until the evening tide set him free, at which time the bidarras that made a second trip also arrived. The next day was Sunday and we read a great many letters. We were surprised to learn that so many useful things were to be sent to us, for our friends in the East did so much last year. Monday morning, that is this morning, we hurried with breakfast, pulled down the tents, hunted up the odds and ends and after Brother Kilbuck and Mr. Lind had fixed a comfortable cabin for me in the large bidarra, we all set sail for home. We are now sailing and rowing at the same time. Brother Kilbuck is somewhere back of us and I fear he is on the mud for one whole tide. I think I have about caught up now in my writing.

Mr. Sipary went down to San Francisco this Spring, Mr. Hyman and the two miners also. Mr. Denentoff takes Mr. Sipary's place and trades for him. The Captain of the Company's vessel sent me some lemons, and said he was sorry I did not come on board the vessel in the bay, and that they would have done everything in their power to have made it pleasant for me. The mosquitoes are dreadful and I must close for the present.

June 17, 1888.—We all landed safely at home June 16. Does it not seem strange, to start from home on the 5th, and make the round trip in eleven days when heretofore it has taken from 20 to 23 days? Besides this we

had no storm, which is very unusual. We took our time in coming home, had regular meals and did not travel in the night. The scow kept with us pretty well, and sometimes was ahead. We had one somewhat stormy night—it was foggy and we were in deep and wide water where the wind blew against the tide and made a pretty heavy sea. The waves beat into the boat pretty badly, part of the night. That afternoon just before the wind started up one of the bidarras got on a mud bank at ebb tide and was there until the next flood. We were obliged to wait for the men that whole tide. Near noon we saw them coming and a hungry crew they were, for they had no food with them. On Friday the wind failed, and Bro. Kilbuck could not sail, so we got home first. I then sent a bidarra after him and Bro. Weber, and sent other men to bring the scow. Bro. Kilbuck and Bro. Weber arrived about 11 P.M. and the scow came in next morning. All yesterday was spent in unloading and storing away the goods. Towards evening we opened the boxes, barrels and bales sent to us by friends. So many pretty and useful presents were sent! We are so wild with delight at the good news and the many pretty presents, that I can scarcely settle down to write. Clothing for the School in suits by the dozen! One full set of beautiful clothes for Katy. This saves me much hard work this Fall. Even some clothes came for John and me. For Katy and baby were cards, books, blocks, dolls, rattles, balls, combs, brush and soap, and tooth powder; toy dishes, vases, six boxes of candy, dried cherries, dried raspberries and apples, 1 peck walnuts, 1½ peck hazelnuts, some hickorynuts; one good old-fashioned home-cured ham; hoods for Katy and myself, carpets, upholstery goods for home-made furniture; Sunday-school cards and charts, photographs, and many more things which I have not time to mention. Suffice it to say that we have every thing our hearts would wish. But we miss the long-looked for potatoes, also no butter was sent, no coal-oil and no yeast and no windows for the new home (we have single windows, but we need double ones for Winter).

June 24.—The salmon have been running all week and the boys are busy with the nets. Bro. Kilbuck has not done much but look after the sick—there seem to be many of these—Mrs. Lind is sick and Bro. Kilbuck goes up every day, and I go as often as I can.

I have Mattie with me again. She was glad to get back and it is a great relief to have her at the work again. Aleximan, her husband, is not well; we are doctoring him for large sores on his hips. Katy has a bad cold, caused I think by playing in the water. Whenever she gets out she runs to the river wading and paddling around in the water. I am in constant dread for fear of her falling into deep water.

July 4.—We are all settled down to steady work again and writing is a pastime. Bro. Kilbuck is helping Procopi and Bro. Weber raise logs. The building is going on slowly; the roof will soon be on, and finishing will begin.

Two white men, miners from the Yukon, are here on their way to Nushegak. They have found no gold this year. Last year one of the men found \$700 worth of gold but it cost him all to live through the Winter. The traders on the other river have no mercy on any one. The miners washed some sand on this river and found some gold in it—only a very little. I hope they are mistaken, for gold would do our people no good. On the Yukon there are in places pretty good diggings, but the traders are driving miners away with their high prices. One of the men said that he found one place where he made for a while \$200 daily, and then had to thaw the dirt by the fire before he could wash it. The miners say that mastodon bones, teeth and tusks are very abundant everywhere in the mountains. On last Sunday the men were here to service, one is an Episcopalian.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., DECEMBER 5, 1888.

ALASKA.

The Journal of Mrs. Kilbuck, Bethel, Alaska,

July 13, 1888.—Mr. Lind came home from Kolmakoffsky, where he had gone with Mr. Sipery's goods. On the way he swamped Mr. Sipery's large bidarra. A snag rent a seam for 12 inches. The goods were all saved except 11 barrels of sugar. This was the same boat in which I came up the river. I am glad the accident did not occur while I was in it. Through some men from the Coast, we learn that our boy Abraham died last Spring. For about three weeks the air has been cloudy and hazy or full of smoke. Mr. Lind learned while gone that the forests on the Yukon were on fire, and had burned all the way across to this river.

July 14.—Bro. Kilbuck started up the river after logs and to see about getting food for the school boys and also to find more boys for the school. When Alexi's father, the "old man," saw Bro. Kilbuck up the river, he came down that same day to stay with me lest I might be afraid to stay here alone. He paddled hard all day, and arrived "very tired and hungry for bread and tea." He is making a fish-trap to pay for his meals, and will return as soon as Bro. Kilbuck gets back. He also brought me a large wooden tray. The miners left to-day and Bro. Weber and I sent letters to Bro. Wolff's party.

Another bidarra load of people has arrived from the coast and I must go and greet them, I see an old woman that looks sick.

July 15.—The old woman is better. I have also been caring for a very sore finger for a man; he comes twice a day to have it dressed. I feared he would lose the finger at the first joint. Other patients we also have with stomach and bowel troubles, one with sore throat, three with sore eyes, five with coughs and one with nasal catarrh. Each day lately there have been from

seven to nine calls, almost enough to keep one person busy all the time. Yesterday I found Aleximan crying. He said he did not believe his sores would ever heal again. One man said he wanted to get some medicine, but not on Sunday. He said "wait until to-morrow." Another party is here and say they wish our God to be their God. They wish Bro. Kilbuck "was at home to baptize them and make them good." They have very little idea what baptism means; but they want something, and we hope by the little we now are able to say to in part satisfy their longings for something good. How little they know what good things are in store for them. Sometimes we think we know a good deal of their language; but when we come to explain the love of Christ Jesus, what we do know seems as nothing, and we find it impossible to make them understand us as we should. When, O when, will our tongues be loosed, that we may preach and teach unhampered by this great barrier! Soon, soon we hope and pray.

Later. We have just had services, Bro. Weber officiating and many strangers present, nearly filling our sitting room.

July 17.—Yesterday I received a note from Bro. Kilbuck, stating that he would not be home until Thursday—that logs were scarce and mosquitoes and sand flies terrible!!

It rained all day, and I had eight patients on the list. To-day it is also raining; I have given medicine to three persons only; but the day is not yet gone. Natives are here from both up and down the river, nearly forty strangers, one party here and the others at the Post. There are five tents pitched around Bethel, which make it look quite town-like.

July 20.—Bro. Kilbuck returned on the 18th, leaving the men to bring the raft. He got only a few logs, and the storm carried three of his best ones away.

Several bidarras arrive each day from below, yesterday six arrived, but they are all gone again. They come with oil, but Mr. Lind already has all that he needs. Bro. Kilbuck is preparing to start down the river next week to buy fish and to visit the people. He may get some boys from up the river, but he did not meet with much success. The parents will say "Yes" until you wish to take the boy, and then they have any number of excuses to make.

July 25.—A very stormy week, wind from the South and Southwest which makes the tide unusually high.

July 28.—I must close now. I have written no Mission Journal for the Board, but if they wish this you must copy it.

Love to all,

EDITH KILBUCK.

as this in regard to attempts at corruption of the ballot." *Moravian Nov 21. 1888.*

A WAY OF WORKING FOR OUR MISSION IN ALASKA.—In various congregations there may be those who are unable to give largely in money, who would like to render all possible assistance to our Mission in Alaska by giving their time and skill. We think that such friends will appreciate a suggestion. The journals of our missionaries have made it plain, that to carry on their schools with success they must board as many as possible of their scholars; those poor heathen need to be taught the very rudiments of civilization. But it has proved too heavy a task for the few hands at their disposal to make a sufficient quantity of clothes for the children. Even if they had the material, their other work does not leave them the time. Whoever, then, here at home is willing to make children's clothes out of washable goods such as our missionaries have described, will be rendering valuable assistance. It is something that might cause the formation of sewing-societies where they do not exist, or that might furnish a definite object for which to work in ease any already existing society is without one. We are sure that the committee of the Society for Propagating the Gospel, who have charge of the matter of supplies will be glad to explain in detail what is required to any who may apply to them for information. And in case there are friends of the cause really desirous to assist in this way, but unable to find a means of procuring the material for the clothing, we feel authorized to state that it will be worth their while to put themselves in correspondence with this Committee on Supplies, viz., the Brethren R. de Schweinitz, J. H. Træger and J. S. Krause of Bethlehem.

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THE ALASKA MISSION COLLECTION.—Gifts in aid of the Alaska Mission, we are informed by the Treasurer, are on the whole a little backward as compared with those of last year. We sincerely trust that this is not to be taken as an indication of a falling off of the receipts in total or as a decrease in interest on the part of the friends of the cause. Nor do we indeed believe that this is the case. It is incredible that interest should slacken just when visible fruits are appearing. Yet we must bestir ourselves, or the mission-year may slip around and its close find us retreating from the gratifying position of last year's financial report. Let us remember, that reinforcements are to be given to Bethel and Carmel; and this means that the cost of sending on such brethren and sisters must be provided in addition to the current expenses of the stations.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., DECEMBER 26, 1888.

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THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., JANUARY 9, 1889.

OFFICIAL ITEMS.

REPORTED BY THE PROVINCIAL ELDERS' CONFERENCE.

THE MISSION IN ALASKA.—In the name of the Lord of the Harvest we again call for laborers to go forth into His whitening fields. A married couple is needed at each of the two Alaska stations, but especially at Bethel where the work is extending. The call is urgent. "The King's business requires haste." Let none who are otherwise fitted hesitate, or halt between two opinions, but promptly send in their names as volunteers for this noble work.

Responses should be addressed to either Bishop A. A. Reinke, 162 E. 36th Street, New York City, or Bishop H. T. Bachman, Bethlehem, Pa.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., JANUARY 16, 1889.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF JANUARY 19.—One hundred and fifty-six years ago, the nineteenth of January, our first work among the heathen of the high latitudes was begun, that strange providential result of Count Zinzendorf's visit to Copenhagen to be present at the coronation of King Christian VI of Denmark. It is a thrilling story yet, after the lapse of a century and a half, that narrative of Christian David, and the two Stachs, knowing so little about the dreary land that they expect to support themselves by farming, yet toiling on faithfully after their preconceived notions have been rudely shattered, and although for years they and their later helpers meet with no success. But at last came the break, with Kajarnak's earnest request to hear once more about the sufferings of the Saviour. And God has so blessed the faith and labors of those noble pioneers, that to-day the people of the west coast of Greenland are practically a Christian people.

We recall the dangers and difficulties, perils and heart-aches, of those first years of sowing in anxiety, because another mission to kindred

people in the Arctic region is peculiarly near to our hearts just now. Also in the stage of

formation, as it were, though past the period of experiment, our Mission in Alaska lies close upon our hearts, because of reasonable anticipation of happy results, which last winter's labor presaged, and because the missionaries have expressed a need that has not yet been met. Our Church calls for volunteers, particularly for some sister willing and qualified to stand by Sister Kilbuck in her noble service at Bethel. Think of her, with the cares of her own household, and the wants of the Mission-school on her hands! Surely she must have woman's aid. Who will go? The Lord touch the heart of suitable brethren and sisters to say, "Here am I, send me."

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., JANUARY 23, 1889.

OFFICIAL ITEMS.

REPORTED BY THE PROVINCIAL ELDERS' CONFERENCE.

THE MISSION IN ALASKA.—"The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest that He send forth laborers into His harvest."

The Call for Help for Alaska sounds out again. The weeks are rapidly passing. The needs of the Mission at Bethel are peremptory; and if not supplied soon, the work at this place may be seriously crippled.

The Provincial Board, accordingly, herewith sends out a new call to the churches for immediate action.

Our special request now is for two sisters, single or widowed, to go to Bethel. Are not two such to be found who shall meet the requisites of firm health, practical sense, and genuine devotion to the Lord? A suitable escort will, if desired, be provided. Meanwhile let the churches remember the Saviour's command, "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest"—to rouse up and "send forth" two such consecrated ones. Responses can be addressed either to Bishop A. A. Reinke, 162 E. 36th Street, New York City, or to Bishop H. T. Bachman, Bethlehem, Pa.

THE MISSION IN ALASKA.—We are privileged to report that on January 17 the Rev. Robert de Schweinitz attended a Convention of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs held in Washington as representative of the Moravian Church, and reported to that body concerning the condition and progress of the work of our Church in Alaska and among the Indians. It was a highly inter-

esting occasion, at which a series of strong resolutions were adopted, urging upon the United States Government many changes and improvements in its efforts to civilize and educate the aborigines of our country. Brother de Schweinitz was also successful, through the kind co-operation of Dr. Sheldon Jackson, in securing from the United States Commissioner of Education substantial aid for our Mission Schools in Alaska.

A CRITICAL STAGE IN THE COURSE OF OUR MISSION IN ALASKA.

AN ADDRESS AT THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE YOUNG MEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF BETHLEHEM, PA., SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 1889, BY THE REV. J. TAYLOR HAMILTON.

One of two topics only could with fitness be before us at this time. As members of the American Moravian Church, as well as members and friends of the Young Men's Missionary Society of this congregation, special demands upon our interest and prayers and liberality are being made by the very first and by the latest field of our Church's missionary activity.

And if between these two claimants for our brotherly sympathy I have yielded to the urgency of the latter, I am confident that you will approve my choice. The problems arising out of the transition of our West Indian work from a state of dependence to self-support are for the experienced fathers of our Church to determine, weighing well the testimony of those engaged there and the significance of statistics; but there is not a man, woman or intelligent child amongst us who can not understand more or less fully what the situation in Alaska demands. Moreover the needs of the Mission in Alaska may be helped by just such publicity as the present occasion affords. In short, it has seemed to me that I should be deliberately going out of my way, if I brought before you any other theme.

Let us rehearse together the familiar features of this stimulating enterprise. May 12, 1884, saw the Brethren Hartman and Weinland setting out from San Francisco in the Revenue Cutter "*Corwin*," for their tour of exploration in northwestern Alaska. Their friendly reception by the religiously destitute natives and the kind offers of the trading-companies, in fact all that they experienced, induced them to report favorably with regard to the prospects of establishing a Mission among the Esquimaux of the Kuskokwim river, when they returned in September of that year. Then followed the departure of the Brethren Weinland and Kilbuck with their wives and Brother Torgersen from the same port in the "*Lizzie Merrill*," on May 18, 1885, and their landing on Alaskan soil on June 19, with the mournful accident soon after that cost the valuable life, the almost indispensable experience and mechanical skill, it seemed, of the eldest man in the company. Yet with loyal courage the two inexperienced couples faced the Arctic winter in a rude house of their own contriving, and could write cheerfully and hopefully at its close. Many considerations next led to the founding of a station

more readily accessible than was theirs at Bethel; and Brother Wolff accordingly paid his eventful visit to Nushagak, from August 21, to September 8, 1886. In the house constructed with such expedition in due time he and his family and Sister Huber found a home; and Bethel had a companion in Carmel. The year that witnessed the occupation of Carmel saw the compulsory return of Brother Weinland and his family by reason of broken health. But Brother Weber went out as a reinforcement in the succeeding year.

And how much encouragement has come to us at home from that bleak, distant field! Its frozen soil has responded in fruitfulness to the waterings of self consecration. Bethel is not much more than two years old, when there is a great impression upon heathen hearts at Christmas time. Requests to statedly preach the Gospel come from three neighboring villages; and not many months later Brother Kilbuck can write of at least a few hopeful conversions. And meantime there has been a steady instruction of boys and girls in the mission-school. Carmel is not a year old, before the missionary admits on confession of faith, after previous careful instruction, a penitent prodigal from a Christian land into the fellowship of our Church; and Louis Guenther, the first-fruits of the work at Nushagak, proves a most useful friend to the mission-family. Here also a school is maintained in spite of serious hindrances, and ere long obtains the countenance of the governor of the Territory. His protection insuring it fair play in the future, we may reasonably expect to hear that good results have been obtained there this year.

Compare this record of the early fruitfulness of our Mission in Alaska with the story of other missions to heathen tribes, and know that we have abundant reason to praise God for His signal goodness to us.

In Greenland, five years passed before the inquiry of Kajarnak gave the missionaries evidence that their teaching was not in vain. Schmidt waited seven years in South Africa before he was rewarded with the baptism of his first convert. In Surinam, they hoped against hope for eight years for the conversion of the first Arawak. The first station of our Church in Australia was founded in 1850; but it was 1860 before the first baptism could take place. In Thibet they labored and prayed for nine years till the first-fruits could be gathered in.

And like features meet us in the history of new beginnings by other churches. It took Carey six years to really get a foothold in India. Six years passed before Judson won his first convert in Burmah. It was after seven years of labor that Morrison held his first baptism of a converted heathen in China.

But here in northwestern Alaska the Missionaries can report conversions within three years of the exploratory tour. Do we err, then, in believing that through this His leading God is calling to our Church, "Awake, awake, put on thy strength; awake, as in the ancient days, as in the generations of old"? I for one can not fail to find in the prompt success granted to our Mission in Alaska,

not merely a token of the approval of our Lord, but also a loud-sounding challenge to us to prove ourselves worthy of our descent from the pioneers of modern missions, by a vigorous prosecution of the work so auspiciously begun.

Yet we have reached a critical stage in the history of this Mission. Budding success begins to blossom, and if all is done which should be done, promises rich fruitage. If additional suitable laborers are forwarded with the prayers of the Church, no one can tell how significant and important that Mission may be for the future history of that Arctic land. But the two stations are not fully manned. The lack of laborers will hamper the work, if not adequately met. To refrain from sending helpers, may mean to lose the advantage already gained, the reward of the previous sacrifices. It may mean even failure right on the verge of success. Moreover if the missionaries' request for re-enforcements should not result in the sending of suitable volunteers, I fear very much that increasing difficulty would attend a habitual dispatching of men and women, in case the Mission should survive the blow given by a lack of zeal in this instance, until the effect of this year's halting should be overcome. In short, this seems to me the flood of the tide, which if taken now, before its turn, will lead on to the best of fortune, but which can be neglected to our deep regret some future day.

Realizing the critical importance of the present situation, let us then consider our relation to the Mission as it now exists. What should be our position overagainst it and its workers?

I know of only one allowable answer to that question—faithful support. Can any of you conceive how we could maintain any other relation to them than this, to stand by them loyally, and yet keep our self-respect, we Moravians of the United States?

Our Church has begun this Mission in the name of the Lord, we ourselves have solemnly commenced it. It is too late to retreat from it with honor. We have committed ourselves to it; and dare not draw back. Then the only thing we can do, is to see to it that the Mission and the missionaries lack for nothing. There dare be no trifling with this work to which we stand solemnly pledged.

The honor of Christ's cause constrains us to everything that is implied in a hearty support of this Mission in Alaska. The call to enter that field was accepted as coming from Jesus Himself. His blessing has manifested His acknowledgment of our trust. If we looked back after putting our hand to this plough, we should not be worthy of Him. And at the same time, that it is His work is our guarantee of future success, if we do our part. The field may be an unpromising one, compared to certain other spheres of missionary operation. But the seed of God's Word has tremendous vitality. It can transmute from death to life soil frozen stone-hard with degrading ignorance. No metaphor can properly set forth its power to produce a hundred-fold.

And we are as fully committed to a hearty support of this undertaking, because the good name and reputation of our Church are at stake in connection with it. The Christians of this entire country have us in view. Even as they often hold up the example of our forefathers in their heroic heralding of the Lamb of God, so also they have been pointing to this last enterprise as a proof that the old-time witness-spirit still lives amongst us. Are we willing to act in so half-hearted a way, that they will have cause to turn our glory into our shame, and say, "No, these are not real Moravians, though they have the name. There are made of different stuff from the grand men and women who set Christendom the example in missionary effort. They are degenerate sons and daughters of those who were the true aristocracy of the world. These Moravians of to-day are content to live on credit, the credit gained by what their fathers once did. They themselves are bankrupt, so far as the currency of noble deeds is concerned."

Yesterday was the one hundred and fifty-sixth anniversary of the first Mission of our Church to the Esquimaux. Only recently, one might say, we rejoiced to read how our brethren in the South had erected a monument over the grave of Matthew Stach, one of the pioneers of that early Mission. Are we willing to have it said with justice of us, that we garnish the graves of our fathers who were prophets, but by our neglect of their principle deny their ancestry of us and cast aside the heirloom which we should receive from them as a sacred treasure, involving holy obligation to keep its brightness fair and untarnished? Nay, we are not sons and daughters of such a sort.

Yes, and who can be so dull as to ignore the obligations that rest upon us by reason of the conduct of our missionaries themselves? Do we not realize what their self-sacrifice means? There is not one of them who, in the very act of going out and enduring what they have experienced, has not proved worthy to be enrolled on the honor-list of the great Church Universal. Can we read of all they have gone through for the Master, and be indifferent to our holy duties overagainst them, our missionaries?

Last Christmas day there came to us a thrilling story of heroism on a burning steamer near New Orleans. The crew of the ill-fated *John H. Hanna* had brought her to the Mississippi's bank. As she touched, the pilot leaped from the blazing pilot-house, and sprang ashore. But when she felt her rudder uncontrolled, the steamer bounded back from the bank. There was one of the crew, James Givens, who quickly realized that the safety of all on board depended upon the *Hanna* being brought once more to shore and kept there. The pilot house was now wrapped in flame. Boldly the brave fellow darted through the fiery curtain, grasped the wheel, brought round the steamer's head, and to keep her to the shore locked the wheel in place. But now that he had made possible the saving of scores of lives, it was high time to think of his own. Although in the midst of a mass of moving fire,

he kept his presence of mind, and once more dashed through the circle of scorching death. Alas, he reached the land with his eyes burnt out and other injuries feared to be fatal. Thousands read of the gallantry, fit to be immortalized in poet's song, and mourned that it should have cost him so dear.

Heroic as was the act of Givens on that burning Mississippi River steamer, I am free to declare that to me there seem to be things in the story of our missionaries in Alaska equally heroic, though they appear on a more commonplace and subdued stage.

Apart from the braving of a polar winter by the young couples after they were deprived of the counsel and skill of the older man on whom they depended in practical affairs, think of the steady heroism of the woman who has had to pass two long winters without the companionship of a civilized person of her sex, burdened with the cares of her own family and the arduous duties of

the missionary household and school, sometimes of necessity alone for days amongst a wild heathen people. Does not the steady and constant strain of such a position demand even more courage than the one act of gallantry done at the risk of life in a moment of high excitement? Think of those times when her husband was sick, or away up the river to gather material for the new house. Surely thoughts must have come in sometimes, "What if he should be taken from me? What should I, a woman, do in this desolate place, so far off from civilized people?" Think of the long days of constant wearing toil, with the nights of broken rest when a child was sick. Yet how uncomplainingly she has written her story of their life.

Brethren and Sisters, dare we leave Sister Kilbuck alone any longer without woman's help?

Ay, and that noble husband of hers, a fit companion for her in her brave fidelity—the raising up of whom is proof enough that labors of a Zeisberger and his associates and successors have not been in vain—and the other staunch band at Carmel, kith and kin of some in our eastern congregations; are we not bound by personal ties to them in such a way that we dare not let them lack for anything that they need?

And what then are the specific ways in which there rests upon us an obligation to manifest our loyalty to these messengers whom we have sent out in the name of the Lord?

You know that the first necessity of the present critical stage is that help be sent in the persons of worthy associates for their work. The call has been repeated by our authorities, "Whom shall we send, and who will go for the Lord?" And as yet there has been none to answer, "Here am I, send me." A married couple should be sent to Bethel and to Carmel alike. The experience of our missionaries, particularly in polar regions, teaches the necessity of having our stations equipped doubly as strong as these are at present. One trembles to think of the straits to which the rest might be reduced, if only one at either station should become seriously sick and die. And even if health is preserved, when the leading man

of the station has to give so much of his time to the things required for the battle of life there, the real work of missionaries is retarded. Sufficient time can not be taken for the study of the language, for evangelistic efforts in neighboring villages, for the gathering of promising children into the schools. Would to God that two couples would hear the call in their hearts, and consecrate themselves to Christ in the service of this Mission.

Well were it, especially, if a volunteer should come forward acquainted with the practice of medicine.

One thing, at any rate, should be regarded as a certainty. Our Church can not leave Sister Kilbuck alone without woman's help and companionship another winter. If married couples are not forthcoming let any unmarried woman who feels moved to make easier the lot of this heroine not hesitate to volunteer. And better were it if two in that case could be sent out. And in this matter we must search our hearts, and not do as did a certain minister who had urged upon his people the cause of Missions so earnestly as to bring his daughter to him, saying, "Father, I must go;" but who then replied, "Why, my child, I never meant you." Are there not, perhaps, sisters here in Bethlehem, who have been pondering this thing in their hearts, but who have kept back, because hitherto sisters alone have not been called for? In that case, I know I am authorized to say, that this barrier need no longer be in the way. The Directors of the Society are ready, if needful, to provide the means for an escort who would bring such sisters safely to their destination.

The cost dare not be taken into account. At any cost, Sister Kilbuck must be relieved from her most trying position.

Surely there will be a response to the call for helpers in their work. It has been said that none will offer, because they now know what a sacrifice it means. I do not believe this. The policy of our Church has always been to conceal none of the hardships of missionary work, and volunteers have always responded to special calls. The *Herrnhut* of the 12th of February, 1887, contained an appeal for the volunteering of two sisters to serve in our Leper Hospital at Jerusalem. You remember how only a few weeks passed, and the news reached us that nine sisters in Europe had volunteered. Are then the sisters of our Church in America of a less consecrated heart? Are they any less responsive to the touch of sympathy for a noble woman who needs their aid? I for one will not believe it, until those missionaries shall be forced to read with tears of disheartening disappointment, that they are the sole survivors of the missionary stock amongst us, and that we can send them no aid.

Believe me, however, I feel the embarrassment of having to plead like this. In depicting the needs of the cause, how much rather would I say "Come" than "Go!" Not all of us, however, can in person respond to this call for aid in men and women. Some of us may be convinced that we are filling our providentially intended sphere in Christ's service at home; and for some of us it

would be worse than useless to go, because of physical inability.

But, brethren and sisters, not one of us is unable to fulfill the other specific obligation over-against this Mission, and its brave workers. Just because we are hindered, those of us who really are hindered from volunteering in person, are bound to sustain the Mission all the more faithfully by our prayers and gifts. We must see to it that our refraining from a personal obedience to our Saviour's missionary orders is not based upon a merely plausible excuse intended to hide our indifference. By the sacrifice of our means, in such a way and to such an extent that we feel it, we must make it apparent, that if providential circumstances permitted, we should ourselves be out among the heathen as heralds of the Gospel of peace.

Prayers and gifts will never cease to be instruments for the furtherance of Christ's cause, so long as His Church is not yet the Church Triumphant. And our Moravian Missions in general, and this Mission in particular, can dispense with neither of these instruments. Our gifts for the Alaska Mission, our Treasurer reports, are between \$100 and \$500 less than they were last year at this time. Brethren, are we ready to have our record decline? Israel redeemed their first-born, who were regarded as consecrated to the Lord, by the payment of a stated sum. Let us who are all under obligation to personal consecration for the heralding of Christ, but who are unable to discharge our obligation, redeem ourselves by liberal gifts, year after year.

Oh, in whatever way we sacrifice self for this cause, we shall be amply repaid. This Mission has already repaid our Church all it has cost, in putting into us a better spirit. They who water others liberally will be themselves watered in return, and made fruitful in all good works.

Dr. Cuyler has somewhere expressed this idea of the effect of sacrifice so beautifully, that I may be permitted to quote him. He writes, "They tell us that in Scotland is a battlefield on which the natives of the soil and the Saxons once met in terrible conflict. No monument marks the scene of the bloody fight. All over the field grows the beautiful Scotch heather except in *one spot*. There a little blue flower grows abundantly. No flowers like them are to be found for many a league around. Why are they there? The reason is this. Just in the spot where they grow the bodies of the slain were buried, and the earth was saturated with the blood and the remains of the unhappy victims. *The seeds of these flowers were there before.* As soon as the blood touched them they sprang up. They developed. And every blue flower on Culloden's field, as it bends to the mountain breeze, is a memorial of the brave warriors who dyed that heathery sod with their crimson gore. So it is with character. The seeds of action lie deep beneath the surface—the seeds of heroism and the seeds of crime. Good and evil germs lie latent in the heart. For a long time they may remain unknown and unrecognized. The seeds of the blue flowers at Culloden would, probably,

have lain there undetected, to this day, but for the trickling about them of human blood. That called them forth." And I would add, even as the costly sacrifice on Culloden awoke to beauty the hidden seeds of the moor, so it is that by sacrifice the most beautiful traits of our characters and lives are called forth.

May God, for our own sake no less than for the sake of the cause, help every one of us to deal faithfully with ourselves in respect to the claims of the Mission in Alaska at this present time. The Lord give us hearts of courage to be worthy of the high missionary renown of those who have gone before us, and to be true to those who now represent us in the field. Amen.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., JANUARY 30, 1889.

FOR THE MORAVIAN.

The Missionary Spirit of the American Province.

We call ourselves the Unity of the Brethren. We like to think, that in essential matters the same general spirit animates Moravians, in whatever part of the world they may be found. We claim that our strongest bonds of union are our common history and our common missionary activity. This latter is the especial point we talk very much about, and pass synodical enactments about it, and endeavor to keep alive the impression, that we too in this American Province are all enthusiastically engaged in the missionary activity of the Brethren's Unity.

We are no doubt the smallest Church in the world. Therefore the world and the rest of Christendom can with all justice demand, that we furnish our *raison d'être*, that we show, that we have a right to maintain a separate existence. We are in the habit of proving such a right from our history and our missionary activity.

If we knock around the world a bit and get out of the circles of Moravian influence, we find that we are a very insignificant people, and that the world and even the greater portion of Christendom knows little or nothing about us. When we do find some, who are a little better informed, what is it, that they speak about? Our history per-

haps, and especially our missionary activity. It is for this latter, that we are lauded and honored, and quoted and held up as examples to the Christian world.

Now, let us of the American Province look these facts fairly and squarely in the face, and ask ourselves what share have we in either the history or especially in the missionary activity of the honored "*Herrnhuter?*" Does not a feeling of secret shame come over us, when we hear everywhere, that it is on account of our missionary activity we are honored, and reflect then how little share we have therein? Do we not feel like hypocrites, if we accept this praise? Are we not resting on our past—yea, not even on our

past, but on the glorious past of the work of men of other nationalities. Look at the facts. What mission has been started by the American Province? Remember that all missionary work done in the last century and the first decades of the present century was practically *German* missionary activity. We owe a great deal of our present fame to Dr. Thompson's "Moravian Missions." What share have we in the glorious record of those pages? How many American missionaries are there in the field at present? How many really laboring among heathen? Remember the West Indian stations can no longer be called Foreign Missions. If we are really a *Unity* of Brethren, why cannot the Mission Department of the *Unity's* Elders' Conference appoint (not call for volunteers) missionaries from among the American brethren?

How much of the \$100,000 needed to carry on the annual work of the *Unity's* missions comes from the American Province—the strongest numerically? Let us answer this question honorably: Is not the so-called missionary work of the *Unity* the work of the *German Province*, assisted by the British Province, and a few paltry dollars sent over by the American?

Since this Province has really become native American, is it not time that we gave *our raison d'être*, proved our right to a separate existence? When four years ago the Alaskan Mission was started as the one child of the modern American Province, the very enthusiasm, with which it was received, proved the presence of the feeling, that it was high time to be doing something. But now what does this mean? *Thrice* our Provincial Board calls for but two married couples to go to Alaska to carry on the glorious work so nobly begun. *Thrice* the Board calls for brethren to come to the rescue of the noble men and women leading the advance guard against the strongholds of the devil in a truly heathen field. *Thrice* the call is issued, after the historic message has come from those arctic regions, as even a century and more ago, "Sie wollen nun." *And—no answer!*

We claim to be the spiritual descendants of those men, who started out for the most inhospitable regions of the earth *on foot*, with but a few paltry *groschen* in *their pockets*, prepared if necessary to *dig holes in the earth*, in which to live. We claim to be the spiritual descendants of those men and women, who, when the pestilential breath of dread diseases swept their brethren from the Lord's labor, rose up by scores to take their place. And now, when our missionaries will be carried to their destination with all the comforts of modern travel; will find comfortable homes ready built, supplied with everything, which loving hands at home can send; will be met by dear brethren, who have overcome the worst, will have to contend with climatic hardships no worse than those which many of our Northwestern Home Missionaries have to meet, and now the Board calls *thrice!* *And—no answer!*

Out of the *eleven thousand* communicant members of the Northern and Southern Districts of the American Province are not *four* willing to go, when the Lord calleth!

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We publish it abroad—even in these columns it was but recently reaffirmed—that our theological students are morally bound to accept calls either in the Home or the *Foreign* Mission field. How often are calls given to the foreign field? Why must our Board call for *volunteers*? Does the German Board?

Probably our Provincial Board feels that the theologically educated brethren are needed so badly at home, and the clerical brethren in actual ministerial service can not be spared. Here on systematic theology is needed. Only a heart beating warm for the Master, and a body endowed with ordinary health and strength. *Eleven thousand* purchased and washed by the warm life-blood shed on the cross in the stupendous sacrifice, which Calvary saw, and not *four* willing to carry the message to the forsaken brethren of the Master! Shame on us! Shame on us!

Let the Board use its authority and call directly either from the ministerial or lay brethren.

Would to God, that all, who would, had the physical strength and sufficient confidence in their powers of spiritual and physical endurance to gladly answer: "Here am I, send me, send me."

O brethren, must the Provincial Board call *thrice* to the American Province of the great *Missionary Church* of the age, *and no one answer!*

O daughter of Zion lying there in the dust of sloth and worldly desires, mournfully viewing the remnants of a glorious past, rise! shake the dust from off thee! speed thy wings! arise! shine! let thy light lighten the gross darkness of the people, and cause the glory of the Lord to shine upon the isles of the Gentiles!

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THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., FEBRUARY 13, 1889.

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OFFICIAL ITEMS.

REPORTED BY THE PROVINCIAL ELDERS' CONFERENCE.

THE MISSION IN ALASKA.—"The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest that He send forth laborers into His harvest."

The Call for Help for Alaska sounds out again. The weeks are rapidly passing. The needs of the Mission at Bethel are peremptory; and if not supplied soon, the work at this place may be seriously crippled.

The Provincial Board, accordingly, herewith sends out a new call to the churches for immediate action.

Our special request now is for two sisters, single or widowed, to go to Bethel. Are not two such to be found who shall meet the requisites of firm health, practical sense, and genuine devotion to

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the Lord? A suitable escort will, if desired, be provided. Meanwhile let the churches remember the Saviour's command, "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest"—to rouse up and "send forth" two such consecrated ones. Responses can be addressed either to Bishop A. A. Reinke, 162 E. 36th Street, New York City, or to Bishop H. T. Bachman, Bethlehem, Pa.

There have lately appeared in our columns a number of laments on the decay of the missionary spirit of the Moravian Church in America—laments, with which THE MORAVIAN could but in part sympathize, as it does not agree with those who think that the missionary spirit has died out, or even decayed. One of the Editors of this paper, for example, knows of two married couples that are willing, not to say eager, to go to Alaska—the one a ministerial, the other a lay couple. But there are hindrances in the way which the said Editor of THE MORAVIAN has carefully laid before the Provincial Elders' Conference. We firmly believe that when the ships for Nushagak and Bethel sail through the Golden Gate, they will have on board married couples for Nushagak and for Bethel. THE MORAVIAN has not lost faith in its brethren of this Province. We have

gone in and out too often among the homes of our people to think it possible that when the Master calleth *Moravians* shall hesitate to say, "Here am I."

The only trouble is that this matter is not fully understood. Now, we affectionately ask our brethren in the ministry—and we think the Conference will add its authority hereto—to publicly call for volunteers for Alaska, from their pulpits, let us say, on March 3, 1889. And remember, brethren, we do not ask for men educated in a theological seminary, or even a college. If a man knows enough to be a sincere Christian, has a tolerable education, and a sound body, let him say, "Here am I, brethren of the Conference, and I am willing to go to Alaska, in the name of Jesus."

If a sister knows enough to sew, and wash, and iron, and bake, and cook, and is willing to consecrate those energies to God, let her say, "Here am I, send me."

And if a married couple is willing to follow the example of our own heroic Brother and

Sister Kilbuck, whom may God bless! and leave all and follow Him who left all for us, let them say, "Here are we, send us, send us."

Don't let anything keep you back. No matter whether your education is imperfect; no matter whether you are a German; no matter whether you feel unworthy; no matter whether you think others could do better work, brother, sister, it is *you* the Master calleth.

Shall the Provincial Elders' Conference, these brethren that have the care of all the churches, more labor and trouble than we who are not of their number dream of, be compelled to take those who may not be *best* fitted to go as missionaries? Nay, they should have the chance to choose just those that in their prayerful judgment are best fitted to go.

Let, therefore, our pastors, elders and trustees exert themselves. Let it be announced from every Moravian pulpit that the Church needs men and women to go to Alaska—preferably, married couples. Let the case be stated simply and plainly, and the call urged upon our people, and THE MORAVIAN prophesies that the brethren of the Provincial Elders' Conference will, in a month's time, be able to *pick their men* for this important work.

May the Saviour help every one that feels a call to this work to decide at once, and to decide aright.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., FEBRUARY 20, 1889.

THE SPIRIT OF THE BRETHREN'S CHURCH AND THE CALL TO ALASKA.

One of the Editors of THE MORAVIAN has lately been privileged to receive several letters with regard to the call for volunteers to go to Alaska, which, he thinks, ought to be communicated to the Church at large. As he has not received permission to print these letters, he will here present merely a few extracts from the same, withholding, for the present, the name and postoffice address of the writer. It is THE MORAVIAN's opinion, however, that these extracts ought to awaken in all of our hearts a renewed desire to serve the Saviour in whatever way and in whatever place He would have us labor in His blessed name. It should be borne

in mind, that these letters were written without the remotest idea of their ever appearing in print. They are the outburst of a true, faithful, devoted heart; a heart that, the writer knows, is full of love to the Saviour, and to the Brethren's Church. May the blessed Head of the Church grant that the perusal of these simple, fervent, and truly Moravian lives may be fraught with blessing to many hearts! And may many others be heard to say with the author thereof, "Here am I, send me!"

It is on the strength of these letters, and of others similar to them, that THE MORAVIAN bases its assertion that the spirit of the Brethren's Church is the same that it ever was; that Nitschmann, and Dober, and Stach, and Schmidt would find the Brethren's Church still full of missionary zeal; still imbued with the desire to serve Jesus; still anxious to testify to every nation under heaven of the Saviour's love and power.

Brethren of the Moravian Church, these letters are from a layman, who works daily with his own hands for the support of a family of three children, the oldest being eight years, the youngest about three months old.

But let them tell their own story :

FEBRUARY 3, 1889.

DEAR BROTHER.—I have been troubled about what I should do for some time. I have been waiting, from week to week, to see who would go to Alaska. But no one seems to have love enough to obey our Saviour's call. "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." It is sad that, among so many, there is none to answer, "Here am I, send me; send me."

If it were not for our baby I would, long before this, have send on my name as one, who, if found able, would go. What do you think of it? Do you think I could do any good up there with the little I know? or do you think I would only be a stumbling-block in the way?

If you think that I, with my family, could be of any help, you may send in my name as one who is willing to go.

I think it is a humiliation for all of us, as a Church in which there are so many who could be of much help up there, if they would only go, none is willing to do so.

Is the old sacrificing spirit gone from all our Moravians?¹ Is there no more of that spirit that could be happy only when souls were being won for the Saviour?

O that our Heavenly Father would fill our Church with His Spirit; that we might awake from our sleep and give ourselves to His work, and not follow our

own desires, how quickly some would go and hold up the Gospel banner in Alaska!

IT MUST BE DONE! [AMEN!—THE MORAVIAN.]
We hope and pray that some one will be found to go."

The recipient of the above letter laid the matter before the proper authorities, and also wrote to his correspondent, setting forth anew the nature of the work in Alaska, and requesting a reply as to whether, in view of these facts, his determination to go remained the same. In reply the following precious letter was received, which THE MORAVIAN commends to the careful perusal of every disciple of the Saviour:

FEBRUARY 10, 1889.

DEAR BROTHER: We received your letter last night, and have cried and prayed much over it. If it were not for the children we would not cry much over it, but would gladly and cheerfully go. Ever since the call was made I have had a desire to go, but thought it required a more learned and educated person than I am. But as the call came again, week after week, my desire grew stronger. Some time ago, as I read of that aged missionary sister, in Salem, N. C., who, shortly before she was called home, asked "Who is going to Alaska?" I could read no further, for the tears blinded my eyes, and I said, "If no one will go, send me, O Lord! Let not Satan rejoice over our Church, thinking that we are all asleep, or that we say with Moses, "Send, I pray Thee, by the hand of him whom Thou wilt send." Nevertheless, I will say with Moses, "O, my Lord, I am not eloquent; I am slow of speech and of a slow tongue."

If it be His will, who has made man's mouth, that we shall go and work in His vineyard, we will not grieve His Spirit, but say with all our heart, "Lord, we are in Thy hand, use us, and keep us where we can do the most for Thy Kingdom."

We will leave it to the Board to decide, asking God, through prayer and through the lot, to lead us aright. If it be His divine will, we are ready at His command.

"Joined in one spirit to our Head,
Where He appoints we go."

May our gracious Saviour help us all to say Amen! to these noble sentiments. They breathe forth a spirit of devotion, of faith, of simple trust in Jesus, that is more eloquent than the choicest rhetoric. May God bless the faithful heart that wrote these letters, together with all who read them, and lead many to dedicate themselves anew, or for the first time, to the noble work, the godlike work of saving souls. Surely, the American Moravian Church will not let our heroic Bro. John Henry Kilbuek's more than noble wife, Edith M. Kilbuek, struggle on alone at Bethel, on the Kuskokwim.

¹ [Gen's Aeterna.—Zinzendorf.—THE MORAVIAN.]

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., FEBRUARY 27, 1889.

OFFICIAL ITEMS.

REPORTED BY THE PROVINCIAL ELDERS' CONFERENCE.

ALASKA.—The call for laborers in Alaska has been withdrawn from the Church papers, as the Board expects to make the necessary appointments from among the number of candidates now before us. We are glad to be able to report that not less than *eighteen* (18) persons have responded to the call. These consist of *four* (4) single sisters, *three* (3) single brethren, *one* (1) widower, and *five* (5) married couples. To many of these the proposed step means large sacrifice; one married couple, appreciating the peculiar demands of the position, even offered to leave their three young children behind in the care of the grandparents of the little ones, who had also gladly consented for the Lord's sake to accept the sacred charge. From this it appears that the alarm expressed by some over an imaginary decay of Missionary Spirit in the Church was wholly uncalled for. The Board was simply compelled by circumstances to let the appeal stand until it could feel satisfied that some of the persons who applied were the proper persons to send. Even an intimation that some had responded might have deterred others, better suited to the work, from presenting their names. The peculiar and difficult nature of the field demands special care that none may be sent on this mission whose qualifications physically, mentally and spiritually may be matters of doubt. We hope very soon to announce the names of two or more missionaries to Alaska around whom the whole Church can rally with loving and prayerful sympathy and support.

EIGHTEEN VOLUNTEERS FOR ALASKA.—We hope none of our readers will miss the official communication from the Provincial Elders' Conference with respect to the answers to the call for missionary volunteers. Thank God that there are those who are willing to leave all for the service of Christ in Alaska. Now let us at home give our prayers and our money for those who give themselves. The Church can be content to work whilst it waits till the names of those who are selected are made known. Be it not forgotten, however, that the collection for this cause is still below what it was last year at this time.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., MARCH 6, 1889.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Notice.

Friends who desire to send packages to our missionaries at Bethel or Carmel, Alaska, are requested to forward them to Bro. Joseph H. Traeger, 21 South Main Street, Bethlehem, Pa., before March 12, 1889.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., MARCH 13, 1889.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Notice.

Societies and Churches who have sent, or are about to send boxes and packages to our Mission stations in Alaska, are urgently requested to send a list of their contents to the Committee on Supplies at Bethlehem, Pa. This request is made that the Committee may make up their supplies without needless duplication.

The time for shipment has been changed to March 22.

Please address lists to Joseph H. Traeger, Bethlehem, Pa.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., MARCH 20, 1889.

OFFICIAL ITEMS.

REPORTED BY THE PROVINCIAL ELDERS' CONFERENCE.

ALASKA.—John Herman Schöchert, a single brother of Watertown, Wis., and Carrie A. Detterer, a single sister of Riverside, N. J., daughter of the Rev. J. J. Detterer, have received and accepted appointment to the Mission in Alaska, the former to Carmel, on the Nushagak, and the latter to Bethel, on the Kuskokwim.

In the morning service in the church at Bethlehem, on the second Sunday in Lent, March 17, 1889, Bro. J. H. Schöchert was ordained a deacon of the Church, for special service in Alaska, by Bishop H. T. Bachman.

PHILADELPHIA.—On the first Sunday in Lent Bishop Bachman paid an official visit to the Second and Third Churches in Philadelphia, Pa., and preached in the latter in the morning, and in

the former in the evening of that day. He also had an official interview with the Elders and Trustees of the Second Church. The work of the Lord in both churches appears to be in a very encouraging condition.

THE FOLLOWING changes among the ministers have been definitely decided, and will go into effect, *D.V.*, after the return from Europe of the delegates to the General Synod. The Rev. Jacob Hoyler has been appointed to the pastorship of the church at Lake Mills, Wis., Bishop C. L. Reinke to Watertown, Wis., the Rev. C. L. Mœnch to Lititz, Pa., and the Rev. Edward S. Wolle to the Second Church, Philadelphia, Pa.

BETHLEHEM, PA.—Last Sunday morning the ordination of Bro. John Schœchert of Watertown, Wisconsin, who is to serve the Church in the Alaska Mission, took place. The presence of a large congregation testified to the fact that the interest of our members in this Mission has not decreased, but on the contrary is as active as it has been in the past. Bishops Bachman and Levering conducted these solemn services. After an opening anthem by the choir ("God is a spirit"—Bennett), Bishop Levering led in the *Te Deum Laudamus* and read the lessons for the day. After the hymn, "Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire," had been sung by the congregation, Bishop Bachman preached the sermon on the text John 12:32. The charge by Bishop Levering followed, after which Bishop Bachman asked the candidate the usual questions, offered prayer in his behalf, and then consecrated him to be a Deacon of the Brethren's Church. While the congregation knelt in silent prayer, the choir sang the Doxology appointed for this occasion; the service was brought to a close by singing hymn No. 204.

During the Lenten season special collections will be taken on Sunday mornings as a Lenten offering towards liquidating the Deficit at present existing in the Foreign Mission Treasury.

Society for Propagating the Gospel, which has charge of this Mission, closes on the 31st of July. Last year, the cost of supplies and the traveling expenses of the missionaries amounted to \$2,892.18. The receipts from collections and contributions amounted to \$2,891.83. Hence there would have been a small deficit, had it not been for the grant of \$300 from the Government in aid of the school at Bethel, which is part of the common-school system of the Territory, and a small amount obtained by the sale of photographs, etc.

At this date of writing, it is impossible to estimate the exact cost of the Mission for the current year. Probably, however, in view of the sending out of two additional missionaries, it *will not be less* than that of last year, and very possibly decidedly more. Now, overagainst the \$2,891.83 contributed last year, our gifts thus far amount only to \$1,840.19 — with four months before us. Even adding in the surplus to the credit of the Mission with which the present year opened, we get only \$2,279.52, that is more than six hundred dollars less than the cost of last year's work, and presumably also considerably less than the cost of this year's work.

Evidently, therefore, we can not afford to take our ease in this matter. Having opened the current year so well, from a financial point of view, let us not be willing to go behind last year's record. Rather let us so labor to give, in the remaining four months of grace, that the old total of contributions will be outdistanced, and \$3,000 be the high water mark passed by this year's tide of gifts. If we succeed, it will be a vast encouragement, reacting for good in more ways than one upon the causes of the Church at home. At all events, let our new missionaries feel that we appreciate their spirit of devotion, and will stand by them loyally in their noble self-sacrifice.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., MARCH 27, 1889.

THE MISSION IN ALASKA.—Our Church has recently been gladdened by the news of the appointment of two missionaries for Alaska from out of the large number of those who volunteered to go to the help of Bethel and Carmel. Together with the brave laborers already in the field, they have been remembered in the prayers of many. Yet let us not forget that we must stand by the Mission with our gifts as well as with our prayers. The financial year of our

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., APRIL 3, 1889.

NEWS FROM ALASKA.—Our readers will rejoice with us that, very unexpectedly, news from the two Mission-stations in Alaska reached Bethlehem, Pa., on April 1. The reports are

printed on another page. While considerable interest was manifested by the public press in the movements and possible fate of Lord Lonsdale, no one seems to have thought that that adventurous nobleman would have traveled westward to the Yukon and the Alaskan peninsula. But thus it was; and the news even reached Bethel on the Kuskokwim, so that Bro. Kilbuck determined to visit Nushagak at Christmas-tide instead of waiting until a later date, in the hope of forwarding letters by this opportunity. To these letters we refer for all details. Lord Lonsdale put them into the hands of the Alaska Commercial Company at Kodiak on March 8, and they were post-marked at San Francisco, Cal., March 25. The general joy, caused by the letters, is tinged with sadness, however, by the news that Sister Kilbuck's health had been suffering. We hope and trust that her husband's fears have been dispelled, and pray that it may be so.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

1.—A Letter from Brother Kilbuck.

THE REV. R. DE SCHWEINITZ:—*Dear Brother.*—To-morrow morning I expect to start for Nushagak, I write this letter because we heard that there is an opportunity to send mail by a gentleman who is now on his way to Nushagak, whence he expects to go overland to one of the islands. The man is making an effort to get to San Francisco before Spring. I had not intended to make this trip until after the holidays, but as this is a rare chance to let you know concerning us, I start to-morrow. I visit Brother Wolff, with a view to holding a conference, in which we may exchange opinions as to the best method of reaching and retaining a permanent hold of the natives. Besides I think my visit will serve to strengthen his courage, for he has a trying time of it, no doubt.

At this writing we are all in good health, except Sister Kilbuck. Last year's hard work has told on her strength. I do not think her constitution is affected yet, although she is helpless at times. About a year ago her trouble began, but as she seemed to improve steadily all Spring, we were not alarmed. The symptoms again presented themselves during the Summer. For a time this Fall she was perfectly helpless, but is now improving again. If she gets any worse, and remains so, my intention is to send her down to the States next Spring. I will however remain in the field here. It may however be necessary for me to go along as far as San Francisco, but I can return by way of Nushagak. Otherwise I think it will be sufficient to send her alone, with some one who can look after the children. In case she has to go down, I hope the people of our Province will

receive her kindly. [Of course we will, *THE MORAVIAN*]. It would be almost impossible for me to leave, for then the work of evangelization would come to a stand-still. We however trust that we all will be able to remain on the field. We have asked Mr. Dimentoff to let us have his daughter to help us. He is only too glad to do so, for, he says, his daughter will then know more of civilized life. Mr. Lind, who is now on his way to Kolmakoffski, where Dimentoff is staying, may bring her down.

Now I will revive your spirits, for, as I intimated in my report, the Spirit has been active in our midst. During the Summer, whenever possible, we had preaching. We of course have regular services Sundays, but no natives, other than our school children and workmen. I tried to open a class for Bible instruction, but the natives were so busy fishing, that I could not get them together. During the Summer I received five different requests for admittance into church fellowship. It was with a view of admitting these applicants that I tried to get up the Bible class.

On September 9, Proopia's (our carpenter) mother-in-law, died after a long and painful sickness. She never seemed to appreciate our efforts to tell her of Christ's atonement. The day before she died, she listened more attentively, but she was unable to speak, although she made several efforts to say something. She died early in the morning, and in the afternoon she was buried. There were about thirty people present, and I again told the love of God as manifested in Christ Jesus. That afternoon, nine people, men, came to me, and said that if I was willing to receive them, they were anxious to join our Church. These same men had asked me the same question last Easter. They had been present at nearly all our services, at which they were instructed as far as I was able to teach them, and besides, I could see that their desire to follow Christ was sincere, therefore I received them. That Sunday evening I held a special service for them. The next day, Monday, September 10, at 10 A.M., I married two couples and then administered the communion to nine people. These were all received by the right hand of fellowship, (having been baptized and confirmed in the Greek Church).

We were greatly refreshed by this evident awakening among the natives. Although it is not a conversion from heathenism that we can report, yet we have now a nucleus for a congregation. So far I have seen that these nine persons are walking conscientiously, according to their knowledge. May the Lord continue to work in us and by us, for the salvation of these people.

There are times when we are almost overwhelmed by the sight of so much misery of body and soul. It is hard, when we are working to bring light to the benighted morals of these people, to hear of such deeds as the following: Last Spring at the mouth of the river, an old woman was cut up into small pieces by a man, who supposed he had lost his children through her witchery. Some time ago quite a prominent native brought an aunt down here. She was

insane, and he was her only living relative. This man tried to leave her among strangers, and tried to bribe them to kill her. He was finally compelled to take her back to his home. We heard the other day that he deliberately froze her to death. Such acts of barbarisms are very depressing upon us, for it makes us feel that we are making but a small impression. At such times we realize the value of our Lord, for without Him we would have given up long ago. But with such a leader, we can go on, however trying the way may be. It is by His grace that we can send these news of our work, and to Him be all the honor and the glory. We would indeed be as John the Baptist, only "a voice," proclaiming the salvation of God, as worked out by our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us then by your prayers, that we may have humble hearts, filled with patience and wisdom from on high.

On September 13, we buried a little boy, who had been attending our school since its opening. Little Allexi won all our hearts by his winning ways, and our sympathies go out to his little sister, to whom he was always so kind and gentle. The school children sang his favorite songs, "Peculiar Jewels" and "Shall we gather at the river" at his funeral.

The school was opened August 1, and has been kept up steadily since. In September we had quite a number of interruptions. There are at present sixteen boarders; there are three gone, which makes nineteen children. Two boys have left the school. Altogether the attendance now averages between eighteen and nineteen daily. In August and October, twenty to twenty-two. The health of the school has been very good. We have also an abundance of food.

Brother Weber and I have taken turns with the school. He is a great help; without him the work would rest entirely on me. This way we can and do relieve Sister Kilbuek of her work, so that she can rest. We have two native women who do all the sewing for the school.

As I think you will get this letter in time to answer by the Spring mail, I will ask for information about the school. How large a school can we support, independent of the Government? This question has been before me ever since I learned that the Government was slow to give us an appropriation. If the Government continues to pay \$10 a quarter for average attendance, I will go ahead and increase the school. Although this sum (\$10) is not large, yet supporting the children on the produce of the country, it is more than sufficient.

I have bought during the last Summer, 8000 fish, at a cost of 2 cents per fish, in all \$160. If the Government sticks to its last contract, we will get at least \$600. Thus leaving a margin of \$440 for clothing, tea, bread, and sugar.

To shorten matters, I will give you a table showing the expense of keeping eighteen children for one year.

Fur clothing, (parkas, caps, and boots)...	\$75 00
Cotton clothing.....	55 00
Fish, (8000).....	160 00
Flour, (8 barrels).....	40 00
Sugar.....	50 00
Tea, (60 pounds).....	30 00

\$410 00

Now, if the Government withdraws all support, shall I reduce the number of scholars, or can the Province contribute enough to support say from eighteen to twenty scholars?—[What shall the answer be?—THE MORAVIAN.]

There is one more matter I would like to present for your consideration. In a few years this work will be more than two families can attend to and in view of the fact that it is a hard matter to get help from the States, my idea is to send one or two of our young men to the States for a few years to perfect themselves in English and be in a position to command greater respect among their countrymen, when they return. We have one boy about 17 years old, who I think would prove to be valuable if he had such training. Augustus has proved to be a quiet and conscientious boy since he came to us three Winters ago. My plan would be to start a fund right away, so that by the time the money was needed, it would not only be at hand, but it would not be a burden to the Province. It would take less time, according to this plan, to secure efficient native help, than if we wait to prepare such help right here.

Now commanding ourselves to your fervent intercessions, and praying with you that the power of our Lord to save "to the uttermost" may yet be more manifest, we send you our greetings to the Board and to the brethren: Grace be with you all.

JOHN H. KILBUCK.

2.—A Letter from Brother Weber.

BETHEL, ALASKA, December 2, 1888.

TO THE PROVINCIAL BOARD:—Dear brethren:—As I have an unexpected opportunity to send mail, I will write you a few lines, letting you know that we are all well except Mrs. Kilbuck, whose health has not been very good for a long time. We do all that we can to make it as easy for her as possible. My health is very good, and I weigh twenty pounds more now than I did when I was with you.

Everything goes on well, and we have every reason to feel encouraged. We feel that the Lord has blessed our labor. I have been busy teaching school, and looking after the boys most of the time. I have a room in the same house with the boys and am with them most of the time. I am learning the language quite fast now.

Last Fall I made two trips up the river to buy dried fish and gather logs. I was gone the first time eleven days, the second time seventeen days. I got two large rafts of logs, and bought 5,000 dried fish for the school. I would be very glad to get a few lines from you, when it is convenient for you to write. I get very lonesome sometimes, and a few words of encouragement would be very acceptable. Asking you to remember us in your prayers, I am sincerely your brother,

ERNST L. WEBER.

3.—A Letter from Brother Wolff.

CARMEL, ALASKA, January 14, 1889.

DEAR BRO. ROBERT DE SCHWEINITZ: We greet you with our best wishes for the New Year. We have an unexpected opportunity for sending letters to the States by an English gentleman, who came from the Arctic regions, where he has been traveling for nearly a year; he is now on his way back to England via Kodiak. This gentleman is an English Lord, the Earl of Lonsdale, and is attended by one servant. He arrived at Nushagak on December 15 with eight sleds and between sixty and seventy dogs; some of which he brought from Banks Land in the Arctic. We had the pleasure of entertaining his lordship on New Year Day, and he told us many interesting things concerning his travels, collection of curiosities, etc. He expects to take his best team of dogs to England, and as he will only have use for dogs as far as Katmai on the Alaska Peninsula, he will send back one of his teams as a present to us. We are very glad and thankful for them, as we have not got any yet. The Winter has thus far not been very severe; but the weather has been far more damp than last year. For the last four weeks the weather has again been mild and we have had considerable rain. We have been keeping school since the 27th of August with a fair attendance. Sister Wolff taught the six first weeks, as I still had so much out-of-door work. I have made out the monthly reports for the time kept up to the end of December, and will send them to Sitka to Dr. Jackson. I also send duplicate reports to you. Please find them enclosed. The Greek priest still continues his opposition to the school. We have reason, however, to believe that his influence over the people will not last so very much longer. Of course, he has told Mr. Clark he is going to make all the trouble he can while he is here yet. He says himself that he will be removed to Russia in the Spring, which we will believe when he is gone.

We promised our school children a dinner on Thanksgiving Day; but when the necessary preparations had been made and the day came, all the children had been ordered to Nushagak, so as not to be able to enjoy the dinner. Those staying with us in the house enjoyed it very much, and when the other children returned we also let such as were allowed to come have a taste of what they had missed. During November a native woman lay sick and helpless in the village. She was the woman of a fisherman who went to San Francisco for the Winter. I had given her medicine from time to time, but she did not take much of it, as she was too poorly to wait upon herself. She was an orphan, and had no home of her own, and was poorly, when at all cared for by others. The only way we could do anything for her was to take her to the house and nurse her. I asked her whether she was willing to come and she said "yes." So we fixed a bed for her and then the men from the cannery helped me to carry her over. She was with us two weeks when she died. This made a great deal of additional work for Mrs. Wolff and

Aunt Mary [Huber], but we believe that we have been fully repaid for it. She understood and spoke some English; so we were able to tell her something of the Saviour's dying love and the beautiful stories of the Bible. She grew very fond of hearing them, and upon one occasion said she was so glad I had talked to her. After awhile she asked me to pray with her. When her end was drawing near she said she was going to Jesus, and expressed herself as so glad to go to Jesus." When asked whether she loved Jesus, she always answered, "yes." She had a little boy not quite three years old. She requested Mrs. Wolff to keep and care for him as she did of Ivan. and tell him about Jesus too, so that he could by and by come to be with her in heaven. She was conscious to her end. The last thing she asked was that Aunt Mary and Mrs. Wolff should kiss her, and she said "good-by." In a few minutes after she fell asleep. The men at the cannery made a coffin for her, and I kept the funeral the following day. Many natives came to see the corpse, also quite a number attended the service which was held in the school-house; but only a few went along to the grave. We kept the little boy here from the hour of his mother's death. Of course, he has been a great additional care, much more so than any ordinary child, because he had been so utterly neglected and uncared for. He had bad sores and an otherwise deranged constitution; yet for all this the necessity for taking him seemed all the greater, especially since his mother, before she died, seemed so satisfied that it should be so.

The following week the Greek priest ordered all the day-scholars out of school, and we had quite a contest to get them back again; one has not yet returned.

On Christmas Eve we intended to have an Entertainment, given by the scholars of our school, which was composed of Christmas songs, which we had taught them, and a few recitations. When the day and time arrived no one came, and upon inquiring we found that some of the children were locked up here in this village, and the rest taken to Nushagak, so as to make sure of their absence; for the children just longed to come, and one boy did happen to get away from their watchful care; and came into the school-house and afterwards into the house, and he enjoyed his evening very much with the rest of the children from the house. Eight or nine native men were present and three of the fishermen. It rained hard most all day, or else we would probably have had the house filled, as the Earl of Lonsdale, Mr. Clark, and most all the white men had intended to come. We had a pleasant time nevertheless. We had a tree loaded with good things and well lighted with candles. Each one present received a bag full of cookies and a candle, and the school-children in addition a mouth organ. After the Entertainment we had a Christmas Eve love-feast in the house, where fifteen were present.

On New Year Eve we had a short service and love-feast at which twenty-one were present. Our services during the holidays were upon the whole well attended. On the afternoon of Dec. 27., I

was at work in the wood shed, when suddenly some one appeared at the door, I looked up, and there, sure enough, was Brother Kilbuck with dogs, sled and three native men. We were greatly surprised to see him. Of course we had heard of his coming; but as he had not come by Christmas we had given up looking for him then, but thought he would probably come the latter part of January or beginning of February. His intention had however been to spend Christmas with us. He left Bethel on December 3, but rain and unfavorable weather detained so that he was obliged to spend Christmas in sight of our house, and yet could not be with us. He arrived at one of the canneries on the other side of the river on Christmas Eve. In order to cross the Nushagak river with dogs and sled travelers must go about twenty miles up the river where it freezes over. The channel is generally open right here. The first part of his journey was cold and hard, and he had several frozen spots on his face. The road which they took was down the Kuskoquim to Good News Bay and there well along the coast to Togiak and from there on in a straight line for Carmel. He thinks that later in the Winter when the snow is hard, the trip from Bethel to Carmel could be made in from six to ten days by taking a direct route over the mountains. This could not be done very easily at this time of the year however, as there are no natives living on the mountains, so that no provisions or dog food could be obtained. Later in the Winter however some natives move to the mountains. We were greatly pleased to hear of their successful methods of working at Bethel, and are surprised at the progress they have been making in mission work, etc. Brother Kilbuck's ability to speak the native language so well already is a marvel to us all. He seems to get along very well with the natives and they seem pleased and at the same time surprised to find him able to converse with them. We spent two weeks together in the happiest manner; and we felt truly sorry when the time came for him to leave us again. He left on the morning of Jan. 9, with two sleds, and we earnestly hope his homeward journey may be less tedious. We suppose he has reached Togiak by to-day.

Since my last letter of August 22, 1888, we have taken another boy into our family as a boarder. His father is a native trader for Mr. Clark near Lammey Lake. He agreed to pay \$48.00 a year for his board, which is all that he can afford to pay. He furnishes the boys clothing too. Mr. Kokarine, Sophie's father, also sent us \$80.00 for her board. Both amounts are placed to our accounts at Mr. Clark's station. I will send you a statement of all the accounts in Spring when we close up the year's accounts at the store. We had Mr. Clark to take some pictures of our mission station, and of some of the scholars. I send a number of different views to you with this mail. [Some of them will be reproduced for sale.—THE MORAVIAN.] I also enclose a list of things which we need very much, and would be glad if they could be sent to us yet this Summer. With love and best wishes to all,

I remain affectionately your Brother,
F. E. WOLFF.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., APRIL 10, 1889.

REPORTED BY THE PROVINCIAL ELDERS' CONFERENCE.

ALASKA.—The critical situation in the Mission Service at Bethel, resulting from the serious and protracted illness of Sister Kilbuck, having rendered it unadvisable to allow Sister Carrie Detterer to undertake, single-handed, the duties of an assistant there, and no other suitable candidate being immediately available, Sister Sarah C. Bachman, wife of Bishop Bachman, has offered her services in this emergency and has been appointed to Bethel for one year.

Her youngest son will accompany her. The little company, which will leave for Alaska soon after Easter, is anew and earnestly commended to the intercessions of the churches.

MRS. WOLFF'S DIARY.—Lack of space prevents our furnishing extracts from the very interesting Journal of the missionaries at Carmel, Alaska, which reached us with the letters published last week. It covers the period from August to December 31 of last year. Our readers may look for a first installment in next week's issue. Meantime we invite prayerful thought to the important and thrilling news in the official column, with respect to the Mission in Alaska.

The Mission in Alaska.

DEAR MORAVIAN: If there is a sacred obligation resting on the Moravian Church in America, it is the liberal support of our brave missionaries to Alaska.

We must make up those three thousand dollars. If eighteen men and women are ready to go, surely we who remain at home can raise the money to send the two who are chosen. It is only a little more than a thousand dollars that is wanted and a contribution of ten cents apiece by each of our 11,000 and more communicants will raise the sum.

But who would stop at ten cents?

I want to be one of a hundred to raise the first half of the thousand. Here is your V. Now let the other ninety-nine come forward. Then let another hundred bring threes, another twos, another ones, and yet another fifty cent pieces, and we shall have all but reached our "three thousand dollar high-water mark." Then let the rest of the 11,000 come on with their twenty-fives, tens and coppers, and there will be a balance in the treasury that will make glad the hearts of our missionaries, with the knowledge that yet more helpers can be sent them.

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And let every man, woman and child who gives nothing, stop talking about "our" missionaries. They have no part nor parcel in a work which they do not help.

Come, brethren and sisters, we can not afford to be left out. For our own sakes we must have a share in this thing. It may be a tiny share; but we must have it. The Alaska Mission belongs to us as a Church; we can not let it pass into the hands of a few. Let us be up and doing, and that quickly, so that the missionaries who go may take with them word not only of an inflowing stream of gold, but of our honor and faithfulness.

HELP FOR BETHEL, ALASKA.

Providentially a most unexpected means was provided this Winter for the acquainting of this Province and the Unity in general with the progress of our work in Alaska. With mingled feelings the letters were perused which told of the marked advance of the cause in the formation of the nucleus of a congregation at Bethel and of the steady maintenance of the schools at both stations, though often in the face of difficulties, but which realized the fears of many respecting the effect upon her health of the physical strain endured by Sister Kilbuck, overburdened as she has long been with wearisome, anxious work.

What is to be done, must have been a question in many a heart. Whether she should find it possible to remain at her post or be compelled to return home for awhile, in either case it would be particularly trying, if not of questionable advisability, to let Sister Detterer proceed on the last part of her journey alone. Yet the time for consideration is very short, all must have also thought, if the missionaries must leave San Francisco at the beginning of May.

With very peculiar feelings—feelings of admiration, of prayerful sympathy, of deep gratitude to God—the Church will read the announcement communicated in this issue by our Provincial Elders. We hardly know how to find fitting words to say what we would.

That a mother in our Church, a mother of much and varied experience, should have so strongly felt herself called of the Lord as to be willing to make the highest of sacrifices and devote herself to this arduous and dreary field, in its hour of great need, for the sake of those for whom Christ died—is it not startling from the most unusual nature of such consecration. God bless her for it; and God bless her husband

for his willingness to be parted from her for a season, for the Lord's cause.

Having served with her husband for many years in a number of our congregations, and amongst them some of the most prominent, Sister Baehman needs no introduction or commendation to our people. Nor does her offering of herself need any comment. It is of too sacred a nature to be a subject for discussion. Nor do we think there will be any need to stir our brethren and sisters throughout the land to pray most earnestly for the effectual success of those who will go out to heathen parts this May, or for those who are now holding those frontier outposts of Christ's kingdom.

Can there be any more need of admonitions that we on our part rise up to the emergency in the way that is within our power, by the lavishness of our gifts for the support of those who are willing to venture so much for Christ? Not so. We believe that this act of noblest example will call forth such abundant offerings that every need of this Mission will be met. God help us to be worthy of leaders like these.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., MAY 8, 1889.

EDITORIALS.

THE MISSIONARY PARTY EN ROUTE.—It will be gratifying to our readers to know that successive letters from the missionaries now on their way to Alaska have been received announcing their safe arrival at Chicago, Omaha, and San Francisco. The last named city they expected to leave about the fifth or sixth of May. Thus far their journey has been accomplished amid propitious circumstances. Whilst we in the East were experiencing rains and chilly winds, clear skies smiled on them. May the guiding hand of the Lord bring them pleasantly and happily to their destination. Meantime, however, let us do our part loyally for the cause which has enlisted their devotion. Let it be remembered that larger contributions are still needed, if we are to come out of the management of the Mission financially as creditably as when the accounts of the Society for Propagating the Gospel were closed last July.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., MAY 29, 1889.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Letters dated May 14 and 15 have been received from San Francisco, and from them we gather that the members of the missionary party were enjoying good health and spent a very pleasant fortnight before continuing their long journey to Alaska. Every consideration was shown them by the representatives of the Alaska Commercial Company, and they also made many other friends, who did everything in their power to make their stay agreeable. The steamer *St. Paul*, on which passage had been engaged, left San Francisco on Wednesday 15 at 11 A.M., and by this time has in all probability reached Unalaschka. From this point Sister Bachman and Sister Dettner will continue their journey to Bethel on the Kuskokwim, while Brother Schöechert takes passage for Nushagak.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., JULY 31, 1889.

LETTERS FROM ALASKA. — It gives us great pleasure to announce that news has been received from Alaska and that it is upon the whole very good news. In the first place, we publish a letter from Carmel, written by Brother Wolff, which tells us that all is well at this post; also an extract from Brother Schöechert's letter to Brother Reinke; and, finally, part of a very interesting private letter received from Sister Wolff, especially interesting, as it contains news from Bethel, from which station no direct reports have thus far arrived. Furthermore, we are privileged to state that a private letter has also been received from Sister Dettner, or rather a journal of the voyage from San Francisco to Ounalaska, from which we gather that the party had a pleasant and prosperous voyage after leaving San Francisco on the 15th of May, Sister Bachman alone suffering from seasickness to any extent. Mr. Sipary, a trader from the Kuskokwim above Bethel, was one of their fellow-travelers and thus they were enabled to glean facts concerning their new home on the way there. After a voyage of almost twelve days the party arrived safely at Ounalaska on the 27th, where they

separated, Brother Schöechert sailing for Carmel on the 1st of June and the remainder of the party up the Kuskokwim on the following day.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Letter from Bro. Wolff.

CARMEL, Nushagak River, Alaska. }
June 7, 1889. }

DEAR BRO. REINKE:—Your kind and long looked for letter came to hand on the 5th of June. When the 1st of May is here our eyes are very frequently directed down the river to see if a vessel may not be in sight with news from our friends at home and from the many friends of the Alaska Mission. The letter we looked for most anxiously was the one from the Provincial Elders' Conference. We knew not by whom it would be written, as Synod probably would elect a new Provincial Elders' Conference, nor would that make any difference, as the hearts of all our brethren are filled with love for our Mission-work in Alaska, and knowing this, we are often thereby cheered. On the 10th of May one of the looked for vessels lay anchored down the river, and by evening 60 white men and 94 Chinamen landed near our house. They were the workmen of the Arctic Packing Co. But our bundle of mail was small, only two letters and some papers and cards all from our good friend Mr. James B. Roberts. Although feeling somewhat disappointed, we yet placed our hopes in another vessel which should soon arrive, and which came about a week later; but alas, only 7 letters which were from some of our friends, and none from our relatives. As three vessels were now here, two having arrived on the same day, there was only one more to come, and we began to feel quite anxious. In a few days she arrived, and soon a native came running with a package in his hand. The good news was in a moment given to all the members of the party and each one knew where to go. The package, as the native came nearer looked rather small, but it was without mistake mail; 14 letters and again no official letter, but some from a few of our relatives. We knew not what to think about it, but we managed to catch on to another very faint ray of hope, and that hope was, that there must be some more mail on board of ship for us in a box which will in the course of time turn up as they are discharging the vessel, and thinking these few letters must have come on board late. So our eyes were very often directed down the river, expecting to see some one in the distance, and sure enough, the next day, about noon, a native was seen to approach with a large bundle strapped on his back. In an instant all knew he must bring more mail. Soon he is here, exclaiming gammietuck, gammietuck, heavy, heavy. Now we all thought the right mail bag was found for Carmel, so quickly rewarding the native well for his trouble the big bundle was eagerly taken to the study, where all assembled to see it opened. A knife quickly severed the cords that held it together and out rolled a big pile of nothing but papers and magazines!

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The disappointment I need not describe. A few days later Mr. Clark, the agent, explained the mystery somewhat as he had fared to a certain extent, in the same way. He said the Alaska Commercial Company had by mistake sent the mail to Ounalaska instead of direct to this port. From some of THE MORAVIANS and a few private letters we saw that Sister Bachman and Sister Detteler were to go to Bethel and Brother John Schœchert to Carmel. This good news cheered us very much and we felt thankful to the Lord that willing hearts and hands for our dear Master's cause were on the way to the harvest field in Alaska, where He has many precious souls that He would gladly save if some one would only tell them of the Saviour's great love for them.

We expected that by about June 10, we would have our official letters and the dear brother in our midst. In the afternoon of June 5 we quite unexpectedly saw the *Dora* cast her anchor and before night we had the great pleasure of welcoming Bro. John Schœchert in our midst. The longed-for letters also came with the exception of a few. The most important one which we missed was the one from Bro. R. de Schweinitz, in which he had written mainly about the future of our school. I must say that at present it seems to me we are somewhat in the dark as to the plans about which we wrote last Summer. But we will push ahead yet and keep as many scholars as possible. The necessity of keeping the scholars as boarders and to

provide for them becomes more evident to us every day, especially now as the number of scholars of this village has dwindled down to a very small number, they having gradually moved away. My time for writing is very short, and as I wrote about our work and experience to Bro. R. de Schweinitz last January, it will only be necessary for me to say what we have been doing since then. We kept the school as regularly as possible, and the attendance of the scholars was pretty good. I made out the monthly reports and sent them to Dr. Jackson by this mail. It gives us pleasure to say that two of our girls, Sophie and Olga have a short time ago come forward and asked to be numbered among Christ's followers. They are now receiving a thorough course of catechetical instruction. Dear brother, there are many things I would like to write to you, but can not this time, as I feel completely worn out from the rush of work doing the last few days, handling many and some very heavy packages of goods, and no sleep to amount to anything during the last few nights. I will write to you soon again when I have more time.

The rest of the members of the Carmel Mission joins me in much love to you and all the members of the Board, and may your intercessions at the throne of grace for us and the Eskimos not cease.

I remain your affectionate brother,
F. E. WOLFF.

Extracts from Brother Schœchert's Letter.

CARMEL, June 6, 1889.

I arrived here last night and found Bro. Wolff and family as also Sister Huber in good health, anxiously waiting for the mail which I brought from Nushagak. They were much pleased that the vessel came so early and were informed of my coming through THE MORAVIAN which they received early in May through fishing vessels. In regard to myself I think I will get on very well. I found all the buildings in very good condition, well put up and more convenient than I had expected. I also was much pleased to hear that Bro. Wolff had bought a team of dogs (7) this Spring. The fishing season has begun down the river, and we expect to start in in a few days. We heard unpleasant news from Mr. Clark (whom I have met, as also the Greek priest) namely, that there will probably be no vessel here in Fall, as there was no lead sent to one of the canneries, of which each uses about 1500 pounds. Therefore, the *Dora* is expected to make another trip to Ounalaska as soon as possible. I shall be very glad to hear from you at any time; it will strengthen me and remind me that you are praying in our behalf.

Your affectionate brother,
JOHN SCHŒCHERT.

Extracts from a Private Letter from Mrs. Wolff.

We have received mail from Bethel twice this month, the first on March 16, and the second yesterday, the 24th inst., so that I have had twenty-one pages of letters from Sister Kilbuck this month.

You all know of Bro. Kilbuck's visit to Carmel in January, 1889. When he returned, he met with very bad weather and was detained on the road so very long that his home folks became very anxious about him, indeed expected to see him no more, but gave him up for lost. They passed through trying scenes. Sister Kilbuck was sick in bed much of the time, and one of the children was sick for a while, also one of the scholars.

At length they fitted out, with Mr. Lind's aid, a relief party, with fresh provisions and clothing, in case they should meet him, and to search for him in case he was actually lost.

Can any one imagine their joy and surprise when on February 14, after an absence of seventy-three days, he returned? On account of Bro. Kilbuck's absence the Christmas celebration at Bethel was postponed until his return; therefore on February 22 they kept Christmas and had a glorious time. Bro. Kilbuck assures us that the Sun of Righteousness is beginning to shine north of us, and we rejoice and hope and pray the day may soon come when its blessed rays will shine upon the benighted souls about us too.

Mrs. Kilbuck further writes: "In the afternoon a short service was held, and, after an address, three couples were married, about fifty-five natives witnessing the ceremony. That same evening preparatory service was held for communion the following day, Sunday, and there were also two

baptisms, first infant son of Procopi and Matilda, his wife, (born while he was absent at Nushagak with Bro. Kilbuck) and named Hans, in honor of Bro. Torgerson, at special request of the parents; then also Augustus, our oldest school-boy. Upon individual application by the children themselves, we took into our church the following day ten of our school children, nine boys and one girl, also six new adult members, making a total of twenty-four of our own members present on that day, eight were old members from last Fall."

Mr. McBoyd is the man who brought our last letters from Bethel, and in Bro. Kilbuck's letter he says concerning him: "Mr. McBoyd will be able to tell you of our place as he is quite observant and he sees everything!"

This man told us that the mission at Bethel was far in advance of any of the others on the Yukon and we have great reason to be very thankful. O how glad we are that our mission at Bethel was started when it was, its foundation seems to be solidly built, and its future seems promising. The Roman Catholics are working with might and main in the mission field in Alaska, and last summer two priests, two nuns and a Mother Superior, started a mission on the Yukon River. These men who brought our two last mails from Bethel are carpenters and put up their buildings. They also clothe and keep the children as boarders, if we understood aright, and are prepared to go to work in an effectual manner.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., AUGUST 7, 1889.

A LETTER FROM ALASKA.—Through the kindness of Miss Amanda Jones we are enabled to lay before our readers a private letter from Mrs. Kilbuck, which will prove very interesting. We hope that the official correspondence may come to hand in time for our next issue.

[Extracts from a private letter written by Mrs. Edith Kilbuck, at Bethel-on-the-Kuskokwim, Alaska, under date of May 23, 1889.]

In haste I must write a few lines to you, for the time is fast approaching when all our letters must be closed and sent off. After much long and weary waiting, Spring is with us at last. This is the first real pretty morning we have had. It has rained and snowed so much all the month before. We are living in the tent until the new painting of the woodwork in the house can dry, and the air is very invigorating. We awakened very early, and as we could not sleep we got up to enjoy the bright sunshine, and the singing of the birds. The water is placid and quiet. Our little *Bethel Star* lies at anchor near by, and to look at everything, one would scarcely believe that only five days ago there was ice all over the river and snow

everywhere. Things will soon begin to grow now. When we think of our homes at this time of the year, we long for the sight of something green. I have a dish with bits of moss and a few little plants that have afforded us much pleasure already. Two little sprigs are blooming now. They have delicate pink bell flowers.

The Spring has been a cool and stormy one. Even though Easter came so late this year, we were unable to go to the graveyard, on account of a cold storm that was blowing. The whole Winter, in fact, has been a very severe one—cold at times, and at others only moderately cold, but with wind from the north, making it impossible to be out; and often if we had not taken great pains the house would have been uncomfortable. The coldest was 59° below zero, while many times it was from 36° to 50°. In my letter, written to you about the last November, you will have heard that Mr. Kilbuck started for Nushagak about that time. When he left he little dreamed of the hard time he would have before he again reached home, on account of the severe weather and much snow. Instead of being gone the thirty or thirty-five days he expected he was gone seventy-three days. This was tiresome to him and proved to be a very sad time for us. I was sick most of the time, and as the days and weeks passed by, with no word from him, and no signs of his return, we became very much worried.

We made every possible excuse for his being delayed, but our hearts ached as we heard the ragings of a long-continued storm, lasting for nearly five weeks. Nearly double the usual amount of snow had fallen, which made roads almost or quite impassable. Towards the last, when every one else had given him up for lost, we also believed he could never return and we mourned him as dead.

It was sad indeed; hard to bear, too, on account of my being sick; but we were not left comfortless. Grace from on high was supplied for each hour and day. We were made to feel the power of a loving and sympathizing Father, as never before.

In the Lord's own good time, He poured out upon us the rich blessing of my husband's safe return. Surely, He is the giver of "every true and perfect gift." How we did enjoy this blessing and how our hearts went up to God in prayers of praise and thanksgiving for His wonderful love and mercy!

The experiences of the trip, Bro. Kilbuck will be apt to write up for THE MORAVIAN, so I will not speak of it. His visit at Carmel was most pleasant to them and to him. How I longed to have been with him, when he told of the pleasure it was to him, and the joy of intelligent, congenial company. I felt very near to them before he went, but now I can say I truly love them. He saw so much of their home-life, and they seem so happy and cheerful.

They are nicely fixed, he says, much nicer than we are; and I am so glad they can have it nice about them. We have every comfort, but our disadvantage lies in our being so far from a good landing-place for our goods. It is such a great

item to us to get our supplies safely from the vessel to the warehouse, and from the warehouse home, that we do not once think of sending for furniture for our house, and finishing for the outside surroundings, that we might have if circumstances were different. They have some advantages in this way over us, but in other ways they suffer sore trials that we know nothing of. That wicked priest at Nushagak makes them much worry and care. We hope he may be removed this coming year, as we heard he would. The priest from the Yukon River made a visit on this river last December, and told our people many untrue things concerning us and our work. Some most absurd lies are afloat that he invented, but I really do not think he harmed us much. Neither we nor the party at Carmel feel discouraged, for as the Lord has owned and blessed our work in the past, so He will be with us in the future, and no one can harm us then. Since Bro. Kilbuck's return, we have all been very busy. My health has improved steadily since then, and now I am better and stronger than I have been for two years or more. He gave me a good long rest and all the care that he knew to give, which, with the blessing of God, has made me almost myself again, strong and well.

Late as it was we had our Christmas celebration as soon as we could make ready, and everything passed off pleasantly and well. The attendance was large and the evening a fine one.

Since then we have been rejoiced by the desire of quite a number of our people to "belong to Christ and be His followers," or, as one little boy said, "he wanted a share of the blood of Jesus to take away his bad (sins)." Quite a number were added to our Church at that time and most are trying, to all appearances, to live according to what they know to be right. Others, especially the older ones, fall back into their evil ways so easily, that they almost become discouraged and feel that they *never* can be what they should. Some few think if they can see no harm in what they do, there can be no harm. Thus we have many discouragements in our real work here, that we find are hard to bear. So often we are disappointed in those that we have trusted.

At Easter, the meetings were only tolerably well attended on account of its coming so late. Most of them had already left the river and gone to their Spring villages. There have been two baptisms and four marriages. School closed in April and since then we have been busy with Spring work. I have been writing a good deal lately. I put off your letter, thinking I would find time to do it justice later on. Now it is too late and I can only promise, if possible, to do better in the Fall.

All the many friends that are kind to us we would thank most heartily.

I am so anxious to get our Spring's mail. I hope no one will leave off writing because we have not written. It is almost impossible to do what writing we do get done.

Oh! when we think how soon we will have our letters and papers, it makes us wildly happy. Not that alone but our fresh provisions, too. Bro.

Kilbuck always speaks of the pleasure of receiving the letters and the papers. He says that I say "the letters and the potatoes," and so I do. We look forward to all that comes, with delight. You should see Katie's little, black eyes dance as she talks of what "papa" will bring home in the *Bethel Star*, the "Belcassack" as the natives call her. She says, "Oh, mamma, I guess he will bring sugar, and little cookies, and berries and *maybe* some of the kind of berries that we crack with a hammer," and then she ends with "and a dress and some shocs." Little Harry has learned the "song" too and says, "Yes, mamma, we will crack them with papa's hammer when they come," and then he looks for the hammer, forthwith. They remember the nuts that Mr. Kilbuck's sisters always send. The school-boys smile, and hop from one foot to the other as they think and talk of the pocket knives and mouth-organs that came up last year. Of course, as with all children, the most of them are either broken or lost, long ago. And so you see, it is joy and expectation all around.

I will stay at home with the children while Mr. Kilbuck is gone. We are somewhat short of men to sail the scow, and if Augustus does not get here in time Mr. Weber will go along. He had intended to go after a raft of logs meanwhile. He will be *so* glad to get his mail. This first year has been a very long one for him.

We sometimes think we might be blessed with other helpers coming up to us, but we can not be sure, of course. How very gladly we will welcome any that come.

I must surely close though. My work is so pressing and I would enjoy all spare moments with Brother Kilbuck now that he is so soon to be gone. With many thanks for all your kindnesses to us, and a wish for all peace and blessing from above, I remain your affectionate friend,

EDITH KILBUCK.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., AUGUST 14, 1889.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Extracts from Sister Detteler's Journal.

Wednesday, May 15, 1889.—Our ship left San Francisco at 11 A.M., and long after we had set sail we could see the friends, who had come to see us off, wave their handkerchiefs. Among them was Mrs. Parker, the wife of an Episcopal missionary near St. Michael. She could not stand the Alaska climate and returned to this city with her children about a year ago. Through us she wished to send some things to her husband, and also requested me to write to her on reaching Alaska. We had a splendid day to begin our voyage, and all went well, for two hours after having set sail, when Sister Bachman and I and in fact most of the passenger became seasick.

Johnny Bachman and I were the first to recover and by the following day we were quite well again.

Thursday, 16.—To-day we again have a delightful day. Sister Bachman is still sick and cannot go down for meals as we do. We are the only ladies on board and everyone is very civil to us. Every thing seems to be convenient on this ship. Our state-room is on deck, and we can open the door altogether or partly, as we wish, and have a fine view of the ocean. Brother Schœchert and Johnny have a room together. This is the largest vessel the company owns; it carries 700-800 tons and is at present making its second trip this year. It will make one more trip after this. The crew consists of thirty men. Mr. Sipary, a trader from the Kuskokwim, above Bethel, is one of our party. He went to San Francisco last June on account of his health. His two boys are at the Bethel school; his wife, a native, is dead. Mr. Sipary says he has visited Kilbuck's quite often, and would like to live at Bethel, but his health will not permit that. He also says that Kilbuck's children speak Eskimo almost altogether.

Friday, 17.—To-day we are having rain and stormy weather. Sister Bachman feels miserable. I found out to-day that it is 2,100 miles from San Francisco to Ounalaska; 350 miles from there to Carmel and 480 to Bethel. We have two government officials on board, bound for the islands St. Paul and St. George.

Saturday, 18.—To-day the weather is pleasant. The captain told me that I am standing the voyage remarkably well, and indeed I feel better than I did on land. Mr. Sipary says it will be quite green on the banks of the Kuskokwim when we get there. Johnny is well acquainted on board and likes to play with the steward's poodle dog, who knows a number of tricks.

Sunday, 19.—Sister Bachman is sick yet and cannot come down for meals. This morning we had rain, but it cleared later on and is quite fine now. Just as I was writing the last sentence a large wave came into the cabin and gave me a shower bath.

Monday, 20.—Clear weather, but the sea is wild. I like to be on deck, but yesterday had to spend most of the day in our cabin, as it was not safe to be out, the waves washing over the ship too much.

Tuesday, 21.—This morning I overslept myself, and went down to breakfast when the others were coming up. The steward told me that there was a fine for being too late, and then proceeded to get my breakfast. He also took some to Sister Bachman, as she is still too weak to get up. I spent most of my time reading and watching the waves through the open door. We can notice that we are nearing our destination, as we always have cool weather. Last night it was quite stormy.

Wednesday, 22.—Very pleasant weather to-day. For the first time Sister Bachman was down for a meal. This afternoon, from 2 to 3 o'clock, is the first time that we have stopped and that in mid-ocean too. I think something is to be fixed about

the machinery. Sea-gulls are following us all along and they are the only animals we get to see. This evening we saw a fine rainbow.

Thursday, 23.—The sun is shining brightly, and I spent all forenoon on deck reading. The waves run very high and several times Bro. Schœchert and I were sent toward the railing on our stools, almost upsetting. Sister Bachman could not go down to meals to-day.

Friday, 24.—A pleasant day. By noon we had gone 1670 miles. One of the passengers killed several sea-gulls; I do not see why, for he can not use them for anything.

Saturday, 25.—Pleasant weather. To-day it is just a month since I left Riverside.

Sunday, 26.—It is still very fine. Sister Bachman is sitting out on deck for the first time. I gave some of our Moravian tracts to persons on the ship. This forenoon a whale was reported in sight, but when we looked we could not see it. This evening we spent singing Gospel hymns.

Monday, 27.—At 8 A.M. we saw land, and somewhat later more plainly the snow-covered mountains of Ounalaska. About 11.30 A.M. we entered Bering Sea, passing a pointed rock (the Priest) which stands out quite prominently, and we will soon pass Cape Cheerful. Now, at 12.10, they are hoisting the flags. We take notice to-day that the water has changed color. After lunch the town of Ounalaska came into sight, and it is pleasant to see land again, especially as the surroundings are green. As we entered the harbor at 1.30 P.M., we saw the flags hoisted and heard bells ringing. The *Dora*, bound for Nushagak, and our vessel for the Kuskokwim, the *Pearl*, are anchored here. We are having rain to-day. They are now taking our goods out of the ship into the warehouse, and some native men and boys are on board helping. This afternoon it cleared off, and we all went to the village and then to the shore to gather shells, etc.

Wednesday, 29.—A splendid day. After breakfast we called on Mr. Newman to find out when the *Pearl* will sail, but it is not as yet certain. Then we took a walk along a stream and I gathered a bouquet of violets and other flowers. At 3 P. M. Sister Bachman and I left the steamer *St. Paul* and moved into one of the Company's houses for the present until the *Pearl* is ready to start. Bro. Schœchert moved his things to the steamer *Dora*, with which he is to leave. As we were leaving the ship it struck me what a nice picture we would make. Bro. Schœchert going ahead, with a truck on which was piled our baggage, boxes, chairs, shawls, and the tea-kettle strapped to a bundle, while Sister Bachman and I followed. After we had gone some distance the things made a move to the left and tumbled off. We piled them on again and then got them safely to the house. Our house has one story with an attic, and Sister Bachman, Johnny and I will use half of it. From our windows we have a fine view of the ocean. We get our meals at the house of the Commercial Co., breakfast at 7.30, lunch at 12 and dinner at 6 o'clock. It is just a pleasant

little walk along the ocean. Our meals are prepared by a native cook and he seems to be very cleanly. There is also a Chinese boy there and he is very talkative. He told us that once before they had white ladies at the house (I suppose our missionaries two years ago). This Chinaman is soon going to China to buy himself a wife, for whom he will have to pay \$110. The village has only one street. All the housekeeping we have to do, is to make our beds and keep up the fire. We get our water from a stream back of the house. Now we are living among the natives, and they are generally very polite and friendly, smiling and nodding to us as we pass them. Johnny has gone out in a boat with some men of the *St. Paul*.

Thursday, 30.—To-day is Ascension and Decoration Day. Here we are having cloudy and stormy weather. I attended the Greek service. Johnny has run out again; he likes to look around and explore things. There are no white women living here. This evening as we were returning from dinner we were caught in a snow-storm.

Friday, 31.—The weather is stormy yet. We took a look at our vessel, the *Pearl*, to-day. Mr. Hayes, the captain' is a very pleasant man.

Saturday, June 1.—This morning the sailing vessel, *Matthew Turner*, left at about 8.30, and now at 2.30 P. M., we can still see it, for there is scarcely any wind. The *St. Paul* has gone to the islands St. George and St. Paul. Whenever a ship leaves the flags are hoisted, and to-day they have been up all day, as the *Dora*, with which Brother Schœchert is going, will soon leave. This morning Mr. Sipary called on us. At 2.30 this afternoon the *Dora* left.

Sunday, 2.—As we sail this forenoon I will close. They say if we have a good voyage we can get to the mouth of the Kuskokwim in three days.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Report of Bro. John Kilbuck.

I.

TO THE PROVINCIAL ELDERS' CONFERENCE:

Dear Brethren:—On this the Ascension Day of our Lord Jesus Christ, it is befitting that we should go over the past year together, and behold the great things done for us by Him. We are happy in being able to report, that the Lord has been owning our work, and confirming our words to the salvation of souls. In regard to ourselves, the Lord has been a good Shepherd, and in blessing us has blessed us with all spiritual and temporal blessings.

Since my last letter to you, in last November, the aspect of our work has changed visibly. In the first place, the health of the entire missionary family is good. Sister Kilbuck, although very sick during the Winter, is now well, and we hope will continue to be in good health.

The change in the aspect of our spiritual work has been to the glory of God, Who by the manifestation of His will, has impressed upon our minds this one precious truth, that if He is with us, who can be against us?

The first cause that contributed not a little to this change, was the visit of the Greek priest from the Yukon River. This visit was made during my journey to Nushagak, and was made to gather in the members of our little church, who had come to us. While on the Kuskokwim River, he endeavored to poison the minds of the people against us, and to this end he manfully plied his wily tongue. Not satisfied with this, he endeavored to baptize and administer the sacraments to our school children. He, however, had not quite "brass" enough to come out openly and claim his pretended rights, but sent for them to come to the trading-post. The children came to Sister Kilbuck for advice, saying at the same time that her husband was their priest by choice, but if she said "go," they would go to the other priest. Sister Kilbuck's advice was, that if they preferred to stay, she would not say go. They remained.

The members whom we had received into church-fellowship, were frightened into taking the sacraments at the priest's hands. He told them that we were blind leaders and would bring them into utter darkness. He thus managed to frighten all but two, who boldly disobeyed his command and absented themselves from his celebrating the sacrament. The rest, however, immediately and voluntarily came to Sister Kilbuck and said, *Unkatuk*. (It is too bad) but we could not help ourselves. Besides this, the priest endeavored to dissuade the parents from sending their children to our school. He also declared that our marriages were void. And then he added a climax, which is likely to prove destructive to his veracity. He told the people that the Americans were coming into the country in such numbers, that this country would become "a cossack country," and would take for themselves all the women that were not properly married. The natives were quite exercised over this report, and made haste

to confirm it upon my return. They asked me if it was true. I of course could not confirm it because I was ignorant of such a fact. I told them they could afford to wait and see, and in the meantime they could live in peace. One old man said, "Well, that priest must have spoken about this Cossack affair out of his own head, and thought we would believe it because we can not read." The natives are not likely to forget this report, and will be waiting to see it fulfilled. Very likely they will have to wait a long time.

Now, what was the effect of this priest's visit? One thing is certain; the natives are now more willing to accept our teaching, because they have seen that we speak not of ourselves, nor yet for the Church, but of God, as manifested in Christ Jesus, and for their own souls' welfare. This fact they never before realized. It has been evident to us that the priest has loosened rather than strengthened his own hold on the people.

The Lord has also taught us the lesson, that if we are on His side, we need not fear, but that we shall succeed. In all likelihood we will have all need of this divine favor, for a report is current that this country is soon to be stormed by a Greek bishop with a goodly force of priests. If this does

take place we will have a sore time of it for a while. But we remember "that we have a great High Priest that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God," therefore we will earnestly strive "to hold fast our profession."

The next change has to do with the influence of the "shamans" [pagan priests, magicians or doctors] over against our work. A little over a year ago I came into conflict with a celebrated and much dreaded "shaman." The collision was occasioned by his taking a second wife, while his first was still with him. As he lived in our immediate neighborhood, I felt it my duty to reprove him. Soon after he had taken his second wife he became very sick, from which illness we cured him, after his brother "shamans" had given him up. After his recovery I took occasion to speak to him about his plural marriage. He humbly confessed his fault, and to atone for it said he would send both away. I left him with the admonition to think over what I had said, and that I would call on him again. Early next morning a report reached us to the effect that he was having fits or was insane. Through Mr. Lind I also learned that after I had left him on the preceding day, he had called his two wives, and told them to be prepared to travel at short notice. He declared that he would move away to a place where he could live in peace with them and not have "that priest" bothering him. He also intended to "shaman" me, so that the people would distrust me. Before he could carry out his intentions, he again became sick I was called to attend to him, as a last resort, and because the "shamans" said, "Now he is going to die, sure." During this second sickness, the second wife ran off, and sent word to me that she would not go back to the old "shaman" again. The old fellow eventually got well, and left with his brother, who had come after him. In the Summer he returned again, and promised me that he would not take a second wife. During my absence to Nushagak, however, he tried again to keep two wives, but could not induce any one to come and live with him near us. When my return was unusually delayed, he began to rise in power.

Thus far his power had been greatly impaired, because he had been unable to harm one. But now he began to plume himself upon his powers. He declared that "he was the one that was making all the terribly bad weather. Now the people would see who was the most powerful, he or that priest. He had called up these storms to overwhelm me, so that I should not return to meddle with his affairs. His former power and influence increased so much the more, as I was given up as lost. How quickly his glory and power vanished, when unexpectedly I returned, after being absent seventy-three days, hale and hearty! Since then he has turned spiritualist. He is not likely to trouble us any more, for he has left for parts unknown. He believes himself to be a fugitive from justice. One of his brothers is suspected of having committed murder, and as the murdered man's relatives live near here, the old man fled for his life. For it is the native custom to avenge the

death of relatives upon some one of the murderer's family. Hence the old "shaman's" flight.

This confusion of the celebrated and dreaded shaman has greatly opened the hearts of the people toward us. Our influence is strengthened considerably, in fact, more than can be expressed. Thus, dear brethren, you see again that, "if the Lord be for us, who can be against us."

These two forces have hitherto stood in the way of our reaching the people. Consequently we look upon the lessening of these obstacles, as insuring a more rapid progress in our work of evangelization.

We have likewise made sufficient progress in the native language, that we are glad for the open door that is now really open for us. The administering to the bodily ailments of our people has contributed not a little to the winning of the people. By the grace of God we have been able to so help the sick, that the people nearly always come to us first, and do not go to their "shamans." In fact, the people come to us eventually, even if they have employed a "shaman," and in nearly every case we either effect a perfect cure, or at least afford some relief. Now that I make missionary trips, a great many more patients require our attention. Last Summer quite a number of natives, from the mouth of this river, came up especially to be doctored, and in every case our medicines effected a cure. This fact will be fully appreciated when I say that at the mouth of the river the people tenaciously cling to their "shamans," and firmly believe in them.

As I mentioned before we have made considerable progress in learning their language. This fact alone makes our prospects brighter, and added to the facts stated above, we can say that our success is assured. During the past year more native services have been held than ever before, though on account of my visit to Nushagak, I did not make as many missionary trips as I had expected. Since my return I have made quite a number, but owing to my liability to becoming snow-blind, I had to refrain from traveling in the Spring-time, when the snow is bright.

In my missionary trips, I preach, or rather talk to the people about the good news of Jesus Christ. More than once I was reminded of the "Power of the Gospel" as represented in that painting in the Bethlehem Church Archives. Instead of the trees and fire on the ground, substitute the log walls of a kashima and a fat lamp on a short post, and you have a good picture of an audience in Alaska, listening to my broken translation of the Gospel story. The best attention is always given me. Those who grasp my meaning first, generally explain it to the rest, or else supply me with a correct expression. This simple service lasts far into the night. Sometimes in an afternoon I hold a service in a village of one or two "barrabarahs," and then another in the evening at a large village. That we are accomplishing some good is certain, although the visible results are not very patent as yet, except that a greater degree of respect and kindness is shown to us.

Here at home the fruits of our long stay is readily seen. The school children were quite

awakened this Winter, and quite a number have been received into Church-fellowship. One little fellow, Eddie by name, in a bold and manly way came to us and said, in spite of his stammering tongue: "I want some of Jesus' blood to take away my badness. I want to be numbered among God's people." The blush that suffused his little face, was not one of shame at the mention of Jesus' Name, but he blushed for his poor stammering tongue, which would not allow him speak as he desired.

Another young man came into our sitting-room, after an evening service, and said: "I am thankful for what I heard this evening. While I sat listening to your words, it seemed to me that I was just waking up from a long sleep. I am indeed thankful, for now my eyes are open." On one of my missionary trips an old man spoke thus: "I am old, but this is the first time I heard what God has done for us. I am old, but I guess, Jesus Christ will take me yet. I heard everything you said, but I can not understand it all. I will lay up your words, and may be God will make it plain to me." These few illustrations will be sufficient to show you the kind of leaven that is working in the hearts of our people.

Now we will turn our attention to the little band of church members. In my last report you will remember that I mentioned the fact that application had been made by a number of natives for admission to full Christian privileges. Eight of these applicants were admitted into the Church. Although full communicant members of the Greek Church, I required a profession of faith in the Triune God, and then received them into the Church by the right hand of fellowship. Nearly a year elapsed from the time when the desire of these eight was made known, before I took the step I did. I did so, likewise after much thought and prayer, for I know that the aim of our Mission is to "win souls for the Lamb." They were as well instructed in the doctrines of salvation as I was able to teach them. The burden of all our teaching has been "Jesus Christ and Him crucified," Who of God is made to us wisdom, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption."

On the tenth of September the solemn service was held. First of all, two couples were married: Procipi (an Ingalick) and wife (Eskimo), Lomuck (Eskimo) and wife (Eskimo). The sacraments were then administered to eleven persons, three Greek members being allowed to partake as guests.

On February 24 ten of our school children were received into the Church. These children have been with us nearly since we have been here. For over a year and a half we have watched the change that was taking place in their hearts, and we did not hesitate to receive them, when they voluntarily came forward and in the midst of a houseful of their own people who were present out of curiosity, boldly professed their faith in Jesus Christ. Four adults were also received. One young man, Augustus, was received by the rite of adult baptism.

On this occasion, I baptized the first infant born in the congregation. It was named Hans, in honor of Bro. Torgersen, and this by the special request of the parents, Procopi and wife. At this time three couples were married by me. The following was the order of our services:

February 22, P.M., Christmas celebration [which had been postponed on account of my absence.]

February 23, 3 P.M., marriage service.

7 P.M., baptism of Augustus and Hans Procopi; also preparatory services for the Holy Communion.

February 24, 10 P.M., the Lord's Supper; 2 P.M., love-feast.

The Passion Week services were well attended I was able to give a better and fuller native translation of the manual. On Easter Sunday we were unable to hold the early service in the grave-yard on account of a severe storm which raged at the time. Later in the day we held the Communion service. One couple was also married. I therefore can report six marriages.

We take pleasure in our members, because almost without exception there is not the least difficulty in talking with them upon their spiritual concerns. In fact, not a few of them begin the subject themselves.

We can also report progress in our school, in numbers and in quality. There has been very little trouble with the children, they being as a rule willing and obedient. We hope to enlarge our school considerably this year. The details of the school report you will see from the duplicate monthly reports which I send you by this mail.

Bro. Weber has been a great help, and now that he is learning the language more rapidly, his usefulness increases. Taking the school between us we have managed to give Sister Kilbuck a rest that she greatly needed, and which has been of great benefit to her. My journey to Nushagak was a great trial to her, principally because it was longer than we had expected. I expected to get back in between three and four weeks' time, but I was so delayed by severe storms that I did not return until the seventy-third day. About a week or so before I reached home, I was given up as lost, as having perished in a snow-storm. When three days from home I met a search party sent by Mr. Lind, and when I did arrive at home, I was received as one risen from the grave. By the good providence of our heavenly Father, I kept my health and strength, although I had been in storms and cold, the like of which I have never before encountered. One morning, in spite of the bitter cold I started early expecting to reach a village three days' distant from home. It was so cold that the snow was like sand and the iron would hardly slide over it. We had been on the road about an hour, when my guide advised me to turn back, saying that a blizzard was approaching, and that our only chance for life was to reach the village whence we had started, as I could not reach shelter in time by going on. I was loath to return, and thinking that probably

the guide did not wish to travel on such a cold day, I said we would push on at any rate. As far as I could see, there was no sign of a storm; on the contrary, it was almost calm, and the sun was shining brightly. My guide remained firm in his prediction of a storm. He, however, prepared to go on, saying, at the same time that he for one was sure of being frozen. I then asked him for his signs of a storm. He directed my attention to a hazy streak along the horizon, and said that I should watch, for it was rising towards the zenith, and that soon we would see it turn black. He then told me to look at the sun. I did so, and I could see far up in the air bright particles flying almost in a straight line. I looked at the horizon again, and there, sure enough, was a dark cloud rising higher and higher very rapidly. Without delay we turned back. At the village we were heartily welcomed, the men calling me "good," because I had listened to the guide. We did not arrive at the village too soon, for by the time we had put away the sleighs and put our baggage into the kashima, the outskirts of the storm reached us. For almost two days the storm raged terrifically. No one ventured twenty paces outside, lest they would be unable to find their way back. The storm finally abated, and I was able to go on, although it was still so cold that the dogs would rather lie down than travel.

As to the manual part of our work, we have not any new buildings to report. Logs have been scarce, and are still. Since my return we have been able to drag out with dog-teams enough green logs for a building 14 feet by 16 feet. The logs are all hewed, ready to be laid up. We also ripped a few hundred feet of lumber. This Summer we will principally do logging and fishing.

This then, dear brethren, is our report for the past year. We thank God that it is such as it is. He has been our Strength and Stay. Supported, by His grace we hope to be able to bring more souls into the kingdom of the Lamb.

With the request for the continued support of the prayers of the brethren, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, we send you this greeting.

J. H. KILBUCK.

Bethel, Alaska, May 30, 1889.

II.

A Letter from Bro. Ernst L. Weber.

DEAR BRO. DE SCHWEINITZ:—As the time is again here for sending the mail, I think that I must write you a few lines to let you know that I am well, and have been well during the past year. Bro. Kilbuck will, no doubt, write to you, telling how our work is progressing. We have every reason to feel encouraged, for there are quite a number who have shown an interest in spiritual matters, and who, I sincerely believe, are trying, by the grace of God, to live Christian lives. But it often happens that we are disappointed in those of whom we had great hopes. Immorality and sin are so common among them, that it will take a long time before they see sin in its true light.

During the past year I have been very busy, and at times I found that I had more to do than I well could do. I think that I have already written you that in Fall I made two trips up the river. In August I was absent twelve days to make up a raft of logs and trade for fish. In September I was absent eighteen days for the same purposes. I taught in the school during part of August and from November to the middle of March. In the latter part of this month, with the aid of two or three natives, I chopped and hauled sixty-six building logs for a small building, 14 feet by 18 feet, which we intend to use as a store-house when it is finished. We have already hewn about fifty of these logs, and sawed about 360 feet of lumber during the Spring. While Bro. Kilbuck was absent during the Winter we were obliged to use as firewood all the logs which we had collected last Fall. We now have three large buildings and one small store-house. Bro. Kilbuck and his family live in one house; the school-boys and I occupy another, in which I have a small room for myself, and in the other house, though it is not yet finished, we kept school during the past year. I find it difficult to keep the work in proper condition with the help at our command. We have a native carpenter, but one of us must always work with him, if we want anything done. So too when we go for logs. All this takes up a great deal of my time, as also trading for fish for the support of the school children. The result is that many things are not as well done as we wish they might be. We need greater accommodations for the boys, both room and bedding; for during the last Winter they had to sleep on the floor. This we will remedy before next Winter comes, if we can. It would also take the greater part of one person's time to look after the cooking for the boys and to see to their clothing. Sister Kilbuck has her hands full with the care of her own family and so we all try to do the best we can.

We have a large field of labor here and I think that by the grace of God we can do these people a great deal of good. I am slowly learning the language, but sometimes question whether I am learning it as fast as I should. I get along with the natives quite well, as I can use a great many of the common words; but I think it will take me longer than it did Bro. Kilbuck who, I think, speaks the language quite well.

We are now anxiously waiting for the Spring mail and expect to start down the river to meet the vessel on June 1. At first the intention was that I should go up the river to gather logs, while Bro. Kilbuck went to the vessel; but the water was so low this year that there are not many logs to be found.

During the past year I have often been very lonesome, but I think I will become more used to it in time. Asking an interest in your prayers I am

Affectionately Your Brother,

ERNST L. WEBER.

Bethel, Alaska, May 28, 1889.

III.

A Letter from Brother F. E. Wolff.

DEAR BRO. BACHMAN:—Your very kind letter was received on June 5, when Bro. J. Schœchert arrived. We were very glad to welcome him, for his help is greatly needed. As the steamer *Dora* will sail again to-morrow morning for Ounalaska, I have only time to write a few words. It is now 11 o'clock at night and it is raining, but Brother Schœchert and I will have to leave here about 3 o'clock to-morrow morning to get the remainder of our goods ashore, and our letters must be finished and packed before we go to bed. I will try to write more about our work by the next mail. I wrote full details to Bro. R. de Schweinitz and to Bishop A. A. Reinke. [These letters have, unfortunately, not yet come to hand.—THE MORAVIAN.] The fact that almost all our mail-matter which should have reached us earlier comes now, makes it impossible to answer my letters. In fact I have only been able to read a few of them. * * * *

Two of our school-girls have come forward with the desire to become followers of Christ and are now receiving catechetical instruction. Good news came to us twice from Bethel with regard to the powerful working of the Spirit of God among the people there since Bro. Kilbuck's return from his visit to us.

I must close now, with much love from our entire party, in whose name I remain

Affectionately Your Friend and Brother,
F. E. WOLFF.

Carmel, Alaska, June 7, 1889.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., AUGUST 21, 1889.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

BETHEL, KUSKOKWIM RIVER, }
ALASKA, MARCH 20, 1889. }

I must write you a letter although the details of our work during the past year will be found in THE MORAVIAN. If I had more time I would write it all in *your* letter so you would not need to wait for the different papers to be printed, but, the report will give it all in a condensed form to begin with, and if they should take any thing from my journal that will come later, of course.

The year has had many changes and important events for us. The greatest, I am sure, is the gathering in of souls from sin and darkness to a new life with Jesus Christ. Our work all year has been encouraging in this line, but on two special occasions we were made to feel the workings of the Spirit of God amongst our people in a most wonderful and blessed manner. On September 10, our first members were received into church membership, and the same day partook with us of the supper of our blessed Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Last February we had another such experience and quite a number of new members were added to our little congregation. Most of these last

members were children from our school. We have our discouragements and often are disappointed in those we are hoping in, but our successes are so many more that we have never become disheartened, but look forward to the future with cheer and simple trust.

One of the greatest evils we have to contend with is immorality. It is so common amongst our people that they can scarcely be made to realize the enormity of the evil. The very best of them are not exempt from this sin, and the young are led into it with no thought of wrong. We have had to expel one of our large school boys for this. I feel sure it was as much the fault of the mother of the girl as it was his own, while the girl was a mere child and had nothing to say in the matter.

I fully believe that some of these women have ten or twelve husbands before they settle down, and even when they have children and are old enough to be steady they think nothing of leaving their husband and taking some one else. Some, of course, are worse than others, while there are with them as amongst any people what would be called outcasts. The men as a rule leave the children with the mother, yet I know of cases where the children were divided—the father probably taking one boy and leaving the rest with their mother. My heart aches for the girls of our part of Alaska. They are made perfect prostitutes by their parents from the time they are nine or ten years old until that parent dies.

They are given to one man who is expected to trap and fish for the father. If he is lazy, or if he will not give up all his time or his furs to her father, he is chased away and some one else put in his place and the poor girl can not even leave and go with him, no matter how much they may care for each other, they must part. In this way there are constant changes and it is hard to change their minds on the subject. The parents count on the gain their daughters will bring, while sons will leave them as soon as they are of a marriageable age to serve the parents of the girl they take as a wife.

No wonder the girls become careless and untrue to their companions, and is it a surprise that the young men should tire of the demanding and exacting ways of their father-in-law, and seek an easier lot, or as many of them do, become loafers, only staying at one village until their welcome runs out and then tramping on to the next stopping place.

I think there is more true virtue in the men than in the women, but I again would plead the helplessness of the women to better their own state.

Little Janie, the nicest and brightest girl of our school, came to me this Winter and said, "It's too bad that I can not come to school any more. I would like to come, but I have been given to a man and now I must stay away and be with him;" again she said how bad it made her feel. I was much moved with pity and sympathy for the poor, dear child, but was as helpless to save her from her fate as she was herself.

As I have said before, the people are not

vicious or dangerous in any way, but they continually practice so many of the evils found among uncivilized people that it is shocking at times how little they think of the wrong there is in it all. This is one more of our hard tasks, to get the people to *sufficiently understand the vileness of sin*, to leave off from doing it. They may say "yes" and agree that it is all wrong, yet they will not give it up, but only try to hide it from your view; and with this they are satisfied. They say it never marred their happiness before and what harm can there be in it? They as a rule are very kind to each other. I never saw them other than this, although they do sometimes get jealous and make trouble by talking unkindly of the other party. One crime they do commit which none of them recognize as such, and that is, to kill off unwelcome infants, especially girls; and they also kill old and helpless persons. If they do not do this, they care for them so poorly that they live their last days in hunger and nakedness and eventually die of neglect and misery.

They sometimes club to death and burn with oil a "shaman" or "witch who is suspected of killing too many innocent people. A case of this very kind we know of, for the witch was an old woman that we had with us part of one Winter when she was sick. They said she had killed several children; which had enraged the whole village, and her own husband clubbed her to death, severed all her joints and burned her with oil. Such dreadful deeds as these are shocking to us. If we say any thing to them they may say "it is wrong;" but they also excuse themselves by saying that it is their custom and, that others have done it before them. Even those who have never done such a deed and say it is wrong, think no less of those that do, and treat them the same as other persons. You can see by this that they think little or nothing of the cruel deed itself, not even giving it a second thought. I wish I could go more into the details of this, but must leave it and pass on to other subjects.

I will next speak of our school this year, and of some of the scholars in particular. I for my part can see but little difference between the children here and in "the States." Their features are good and one never thinks to compare the color of the skin, although the difference is very great. In the Fall when school begins the new scholars are gathered together, as many as we can get or, as many as we can dress and accommodate, all being dressed the same. They look very much alike, but in the course of time we find some to be bright and some dull; some are tidy in their habits while others are careless in every way and especially hard on their clothes. Some are grateful for what we do for them, while the majority take it all as a matter of course. In most cases they are obedient and respectful, although we do get some that are either lazy, or listless and aimless; and last of all we surely have some as bright and as intelligent children as can be found anywhere. We learn to love each separate child and have a special interest and

patience in and for them. There are some, that I could love as I do my own children for they are loving, true-hearted, conscientious and manly.

With each separate person, and all their differences in disposition, we have to deal and it takes a great deal of care and forethought and tact to do our conscientious duty by them. I am sure we have the full confidence and love of those that have been with us. It is a source of great pleasure to both John and myself to see them so confiding and trustful. Augustus, our oldest boy, is now about fifteen years old and is a real dependence wherever he is placed. He is quiet in his ways but watchful for something to do, and although he is inclined to be a little slow he is faithful and steady. To the best of his knowledge he is trying to live the life of a Christian, and is an example to the younger children in many ways. In a sad and mysterious way his sister was widowed and left helpless with three little children this last Winter and we have been obliged to share his services to her. It was his desire to care for her and we could not or would not hinder him. He will probably come back to us this Summer again, at least we hope he may. Two other children that are very near and dear to us are Davie and Eddie, brothers, and aged about eleven and nine. It was their brother we expelled for his underhandedness and inclination to be immoral. This brother, Zechariah by name was, I suppose, about seventeen years old. We did not cast him out, but gave him much wholesome advice and encouraged him to live uprightly, yet we felt that his influence was not the best to have around the other boys, so he was sent to his home. Davie and Eddie are the best dispositioned children we have, both of them energetic and enterprising. They are both living conscientious, Christian lives. I don't think you could hire either of them to do what they know to be wrong. Davie is painfully bashful, and Eddie stutters; but more lovable children I never knew. God bless their happy innocent lives. Their brother Ivan we also had with us last year. He was as nearly like these two as could be, but being older was more manly and ambitious. It has been the will of God to remove him from our midst in a most mysterious and unaccountable manner. Last Spring he left us to go out trapping for furs. We allowed him to go with Augustus' brother-in-law, he being an excellent trapper and hunter. Neither of them returned. Various reports have reached us concerning them, but we have learned nothing definite of what really became of them. It is our latest opinion that they were murdered for the goodly supply of furs they had gathered during the Summer, but we are not sure that this is the true way in which they disappeared.

We had great hopes for Ivan, and it makes us all feel very sad to lose him. His brothers bore their sorrow well and although they would anxiously inquire at every chance whether he was yet gone, they learned to expect the same answer from all, and at all times: "Nothing ever heard or seen of them." My heart often ached to see their anxious faces sadden when the answer came

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and they would quietly leave the room.

Andrew, an Ingalik boy of about thirteen years old, is a very good boy but inclined to be careless about his person and is, like all the tribe, pretty "high strung."

Johnny has all the good intentions in the world but very little ambition to carry them out. He never does anything exactly bad, but will scarcely exert himself to do anything beyond what is daily required of him. To tell the truth, he is decidedly lazy.

Albert, about twelve or possibly thirteen years old, is a fat, lazy boy, but will earn his way at scrubbing floors and mending clothes and boots for the school. These two things he can do well and is willing to do it, too.

Daniel, seven or eight years old, is our brightest boy, but is an eye sore, for he never looks neat. He has a peculiar trouble at night that makes it very hard to keep him pure and clean. We hope he will be better in this as he grows older for he is exceedingly bright in every way.

Melona, the twelve year old son of Procopi, is a very ambitious boy. He is not much of a scholar, but like his father he likes to work in wood and is apt and quick at anything he undertakes. He is always busy and is noted for his kindness of heart. We hope some time to furnish him with reasonably good tools to use. I am sure he will make good use of every opportunity to learn and in time may be a good carpenter. I forgot to mention that Andrew and Davie are our best hunters and furnish the table with plenty of good fresh game.

Jacob, Jerry, George, Jimmy, Joie, Charles, Oscar, Robert, Feotca, Carl, Tommy, Sammy, Helen, Sadie, Mary and Eliza are the other children. Some few that are at their homes at present, I have not mentioned. Among these is Eliza, Mr. Lind's daughter, eight years old, a very modest, quiet little child, and womanly in all her ways.

George is nearly grown and has been so quiet and faithful in the short time we have had him that we think very highly of him and have hopes that he will make a good man. The others are mostly new scholars and have not developed in any particular line of work, but are all good and obedient.

Helen is a little woman, and takes care of my little folks when she is out of school. She is the neatest and most attractive native girl I know, yet withal very modest and reserved.

This now is a short description of the children themselves. The school was opened the first day of August and after missing some in the Fall when the work pressed very much, it has been kept up ever since. Mr. Weber was installed as teacher for the greater part of the time in order to give John full time for making trips and caring for the sick. The school has done very well considering the many difficulties they had to encounter. It has been pretty hard for Mr. Weber and for them, on account of their not being able to talk more with each other. At times it came very near distracting him, not the school alone

but the general management of the place while John was away from home. I am sure his first year in Alaska has been a very busy one, but not, as he may be inclined to think, the busiest and darkest year in the history of Bethel. It is not much encouragement to tell a new-comer that in time and with experience they will not mind things much, but it really is true and when that time comes he will wonder that all these little vexations were so annoying to him then. He has been helping me in the house when he could. I have not been very strong any of the time this last year and about five weeks in December and January I was confined to my bed, and as John was away from home, Bro. Weber was kept very busy teaching the school and cooking the meals for himself and me. He did all very willingly

and tried to be all the help to me he possibly could. He has looked after the school-children's food all Winter, even baking the bread for them and part of the time for us too. He is making a strong effort lately to learn the language and is doing remarkably well.

Oh, dear! my letter is dragging out so long I must surely jump to some other subject now, and hasten to the end. John's trip to Nushagak and our long cold Winter will be my next subject but I will leave it for some other time.

April 23, 1889.—Your letter has been lying untouched for a long time, but the spirit of writing has not possessed me very often of late, and then I have been very busy besides with my work. I have found it positively necessary to make new garments for some of the school-boys and in addition to this there have come three new scholars to be dressed altogether with new clothes. This may seem strange, but it is nevertheless a fact that a new boy seldom if ever has any clothing with him that he can wear when he comes here to stay. This extra work is now done away with so I am at liberty again to write part of each day.

I said I would give you a short description of John's trip to Nushagak and our unusual long, cold Winter, so I will begin at once.

After a tedious two weeks' work at making a sleigh for traveling and another week for painting and drying the sleigh he was ready to start, and the morning of December 3 he packed up the sleigh with provisions and bedding, and started on his long journey. We were glad to have him go and hoped that the weather might prosper him by having good roads to go and come. His object was to get mail down to "the States" earlier, if possible, than our Spring mail, and also, to visit Bro. Wolff and party at Carmel. They have many discouragements and troubles that we do not have, on account of being so close to one of these wicked Greek priests. We were sure it would cheer and encourage them to have a visit from some of us. The comparison of our work and future plans was also of much interest and importance.

I knew I would be lonely while John was gone and it was a little hard to see him start, but I was not in the least unwilling to have him go. Mr. Weber was here to manage the school and other

work, besides we were all well and strong at the time.

Almost immediately we began to have ugly, stormy weather and high winds with intense cold and we were often forced to think of him and wonder how he was getting along. We had a case or two of very trying sickness in the school about this time and the latter part of December I was taken sick, remaining very helpless and weak until some time in February. We did not expect John home until the first of January, so our holiday season was very quiet and unpretending. We counted on having our celebration as soon as he did return so we had everything in readiness, and only spent the days in leisure and rest. Our thoughts by that time were also turned to his coming and we counted the possible number of days in which he would or could return with as much interest and longing as the school-children did. By February 14 we were already beginning to feel somewhat anxious about him, and on that same day a most cruel report reached us. Mr. Belkoff, a trader from the Yukon River, also went to Nushagak a few days in advance of John and expected to be detained at Nushagak some time so we looked for him and John to come home together, or possibly that he would come later on and John come first. When natives arrived and told us that Mr. Belkoff was back and had not seen or heard anything of my husband, knowing also there was only one road for them to travel, we were sure he must have gotten off of the road and perished in some great storm. Mr. Lind came running over to tell the news. He first went to Mr. Weber and they tried to hide it from me, but I imagined it all when I saw their pale, sad faces. The first sight I caught of Mr. Weber, I could see the tears and the whole meaning of it forced itself upon me at once. I was sick at the time and the grief was a heavy burden, I thought my heart would break, I never longed so for my parents as I did then. Dear little Katie begged me not to feel so bad, and wanted me to look at picture books and be cheerful. I could not bear

to tell her why my heart was so heavy. Mr. Lind told me to write if I wished to, to Bro. Wolff and he would take the letter and start out to see if he could not learn something more definite about him. This was a relief, but with that weight on my mind, how could I feel satisfied. I longed to go to him, yet I knew how foolish such a thought was. Mr. Weber and the school-children were all with me. The boys were almost inconsolable. My heart ached for them and I tried to dry my own tears and say a few words of comfort to them. They wanted me to tell them he was still alive, but how could I do this? We were standing at the window and saw another large team come up to Mr. Lind's place, from down the river. Hoping they might have more news concerning him, Mr. Weber at once ran up to the trading-post and almost immediately came running home.

I was in my chair with the children all around me and Augustus watched at the window. Soon he told me to come to the window, that Mr. Weber had waved his hat; and I saw for myself the next minute that he waved it again. I knew

he had good news and I sank into my chair with a heart full of thanks to God for this relief. One or two words were sufficient to put a smile on every face, that their tear-stained eyes belied. A minute more and Bro. Weber rushed in the room exclaiming "Thank the Lord! he is all safe," and placed three letters in my hand; one for me from my own dear husband, one for him (Mr. Weber) from Mr. Wolff and the other was the sad message I had hastily written not more than two hours before, to Brother and Sister Wolff. Mr. Belkoff was at Mr. Lind's and brought the letters. He had told the natives what they told us. I don't suppose he thought we would get to hear it, and that is about as near the truth as he tells anything to the natives.

The letter told us that John had passed him three days' travel this side of Nushagak, so it was very reasonable to think he would not be home for some time to come. How rejoiced were all our hearts. We went about our duties again with a very hopeful and cheerful feeling. We could easily wait now, we thought, until he came.

Days and weeks went by. The weather was fearfully bad. One storm raged after another, with scarcely a day's intermission. We began to think seriously when we remembered how much of his road lay among the mountains where there was no wood and where no natives lived. The thermometer showed as low as 59 degrees below zero which is 91 degrees below the freezing point, and most bitter cold it was I can assure you. The snow was never seen half so deep in all our stay in Alaska; and yet as time, long, anxious time passed on, he did not come. The thirty-five days he expected to be gone were long past. Forty, fifty and sixty days were also gone and everybody began to hint to me that I must live without him. He never could or would return again. They said it was beyond all reason for him to be gone any more if he was still well and alive. Mr. Lind said and I felt sure of it myself, that he would send us word, if any accident had occurred to detain him.

The days dragged heavily and seemed a week long, each one of them. From this time on we felt that each added day only proved the reality of our fears. Sad indeed were the faces that greeted us at every turn, and sadder still our own. With hopeless despair we would turn from the window, that in spite of our fears held some magic attraction. We soon learned to not expect him even if we did look and look around the island's head, where he would first appear when he did come.

We had not forgotten the source of all comfort and peace, and to Him we joyfully fled for consolation and grace to bear, what seemed to us, a burden too heavy for us. We were not disappointed in this kind and loving Friend. Our prayers were most abundantly answered, and as soon as we were willing to say "Thy will, not mine" the blessing came in a tenfold measure. How calm and peaceful were our troubled hearts then. We wondered at the grace that was poured out upon us daily and hourly. Never before did

I feel the nearness and dearness of my Saviour so thoroughly. The future and its duty was plainly set before me. Bro. Weber and I talked

of plans for the future, and I promised to stay here as long as I could be of any use in the work. This seemed to be of much encouragement to him, for he was not willing to give up, and wished to stay working on, hoping that some one might be sent to Bethel this coming Spring. Our constant prayer was that the people of our Province would not, when they heard of the Mission's loss become discouraged and slacken in the work of supporting and cheering the workers in this important and promising field of labor. We ourselves were willing to remain and work on, to the best of our ability.

By the kindness of Mr. Lind we were able to send a team out on the first of February to learn if possible his latest whereabouts and search for his remains. We felt that we must make one last effort to do something for his comfort. We knew how disappointed he would be if they should, after all, find him yet alive, and no word or notice came from us, so we prepared a box with fresh provisions, a suit of dry, clean clothes, a new pair of traveling boots and letters from both Bro. Weber and myself. We could not be calm as our trembling fingers prepared that box to send off. We felt sure that it would return to us untouched. After the men and team were gone, Mr. Lind promised to do all he could for us. He was over often and we were just about ready to pack away John's things out of sight. It only made my heart bleed to see his clothing, books, papers and unfinished bits of work, at every turn. The weather still remained very bad and stormy. We never thought to look any more, not even for the team and men we had sent out some time before. We had reopened the school and every thing was moving on as usual. My own health was somewhat better so that I was able to be out of bed part of each day.

On February 14 — the seventy-third (73) day of his absence—the teams were seen coming, facing, a blinding storm of driving snow, and nearly at home before they were noticed.

Oh, you do not know how it made us feel! We could not have been more surprised if some one had been raised from the dead, before our very eyes. No one was willing to believe it was he until he was almost in the yard. Even when I saw with my own eyes, I could scarcely believe it was true. In a few minutes they were at the door, both his team and the one we had sent to meet him. Mr. Weber, Mr. Lind and the school boys all ran out to the sleighs and shook hands. No one was able to speak. He then left them with the teams and ran to me and the children. This part of the meeting I will not speak of, more than to say, that we at once retired to our own room and offered our prayers to God in thankfulness and praise for the wonderful blessing we had received at His hand. You should have seen the smiling face of the school children as they lingered around the door. Katie was very timid and hardly knew whether it was her

papa or not. Harry was decidedly afraid of him and cried, and ran away. He did look rather storm-beaten and rough. His hair and beard were long and his face all covered with black spots where it had been frozen.

It was 11 o'clock then, and while Bro. Weber and I got dinner, he changed his appearance by shaving, washing and dressing. Mr. Lind remained the rest of the day to hear the story of his long, tiresome journey in the cold and storm. The story was a thrilling one. I would like to give it all if I had the time. He was thirty-five (35) days on his way home and when he told how much worse the weather had been along the coast than it had been with us we wondered that he ever got through with his life. No wood often but green willow brush, to burn, very little food to be gotten for his two teams of fifteen dogs. His own food ran out and glad indeed was he for the box we sent to him and for the dry clothing as well.

His visit at Nushagak and Carmel was a most pleasant one. It was interesting to hear something new. He talked for about a week before we were satisfied.

Now that he had come home we were making preparations for our Christmas celebration, late as it was. About a hundred people collected and the joy of the occasion was all that we could desire.

We then had two weddings, two baptisms and better still about sixteen new members were added to our little band of church members amid great rejoicing and thankfulness to God. Nine or ten of this number were children of the school. After this John made several missionary trips until his eyes began to get sore from the glitter on the snow and ice. Since then he has been teaching the school and Mr. Weber has worked at cutting and hauling logs and wood from the timber close at hand. This work in the open air suits him.

I have been getting stronger ever since John's return and am able to oversee my house work and do some hand sewing beside. You will be surprised when I tell you that I am gaining flesh rapidly. In the Winter I weighed only 137 lbs. and to day I weighed 164 lbs., as much as I ever weighed in my life before. I am so glad to be getting well again. I was afraid John would send me down in the Spring and I don't want to leave him alone, nor do I have the least desire to leave the work and go. It would be no pleasure to see my friends, and leave him here in this lonely, dreary place for a whole year alone. I am hopeful that the coming Summer and the rest I will try to have, will wholly restore me to my health again. With God's blessing it surely will.

Is it possible my paper is full? I must surely close. How I must have dragged out all I had to say to fill up so much empty space. Anyway, I hope you will enjoy this letter. We often think and speak of you and our friends in Bethlehem are often in our thoughts. We have not forgotten all their kindnesses. The many articles of clothing made and sent last year for my children and the school have saved me many weary hours'

work in sewing. I don't believe I ever would have gotten it all done by myself. The clothing was very suitable in every way, but hereafter if anything is made for girls or boys make it much wider in the waist measure than these were. I was obliged to put wedges in the back of the pants, from three to six inches wide at the top. The same with the dress waists. They were nearly all too narrow. The aprons were just right. I intend if possible to write a good letter to Mrs. E. Leibert of Nazareth. She had so many garments made for me. Of the girls' clothing I have a good many pieces left. Katie wore her clothes until January and then they were too small for her. She is growing very fast just now. Harry is nearly as large as she is and is much harder on clothes than she is. One word for our little ones. You all know how much parents think of their own children. I may be wrong to sing their praises to the public, but I am sure there never was a greater blessing shed upon us in our lonely little home, than these our two little ones. They are bright and playful. We take so much real pleasure in them and when one or the other ails a little, we are very anxious until they are better. Both of them seem to be healthy and strong, and we hope they may continue so. I am sure we are as happy a family as any I know. We take every interest in our people and our work, and we need not complain of loneliness as long as we are spared to each other, and have our little ones. If some one should come up this Spring we would feel blessed, more than we deserve. We will not think hard though, if nobody comes. Our writing is pretty well done already. We have been making out our list for the coming year. It takes some calculating to set up relishable meals this Spring. Our economical effort is being paid for now, and the missing of our meat and butter together has pressed us pretty closely all year. We have plenty, but the variety is most painfully limited at present. We have gotten our bill about ready for the next year's supply and I think it is better arranged so far as variety is concerned, than any previous year, and we hope it may not cost any more than the other. [No matter what it costs, they shall have what they ask for—THE MORAVIAN]. We are looking forward to Spring with much longing, for then will come the long looked for mail, and much longed for provisions.

April 25, 1889. The geese are here at last, and we will enjoy them well, I know. It is too stormy to-day to be out with the gun, for it has snowing and been blowing all. As I said before our next year's bill is almost ready to send, and

I wish to mention a few things to you that are not on the list. First of all, what shall I get for bedding, in the line of covers? We have blankets, but all but one of my heavy quilts I have given to the school-children. We have often wondered if carded wool for bed comforts would not be very light and warm. What is it called and about what quantity will I need for four or six covers? If you could find out and add it to the bill I would be

very much favored indeed. Anything coarse and heavy and in the line of covers will be gladly accepted for the school. We have altogether overlooked this part of our need until this year and this accounts for my own scarcity of bedding.

I haven't told a good many things. I never spoke of the Easter week and all the meetings and results, but I have said enough, no one will deny that. We hope and pray that the past year may have had as many rich blessings for our many friends as it has for us and; as we all travel on, on, toward our eternal rest, may each day find us cheerful and hopeful, trusting to God for faith and grace to bear our burdens, and fight a good fight, not murmuring at what seems to us to be more than we can bear. But with the wondrous love of Christ burning in our hearts; and, dwelling in the peace of God, we shall be more than conquerors through Him that loved us. You will see, that although we have had trials and cares, we have also had joys and blessings to more than overbalance all the trouble.

Pray for us, that we may not falter and faint by the way, that as each new demand for courage comes, we shall not lack for the needed supply of wisdom and will to perform our duty. We need so much wisdom beyond our own weak supply.

How often we long to have intelligent Christian companions to talk over matters with. This we feel, is one of our privations. We carry all to God and fully trust His power to help us, so it may be just as well as it is or even better. We have learned to know and appreciate the love and power of God more in the last two years, than in all our lives before.

Your friend and sister,
EDITH KILBUCK.

Extracts from Sister Detterer's Journal.

FROM OUNALASKA TO THE KUSKOKWIM.

Sunday, June 2, 1889.—There are about 75 buildings in Ounalaska; among them are 12 sod-houses, 9 warehouses, the custom-house, the store of the Alaska Commercial Co., the Greek church and the school-house. We saw no horses here, but plenty of cows, goats, pigs, dogs, cats and poultry. During our stay it became dusk at 9 P.M., real dark at 11 o'clock, and light again at 2 A.M. The Alaska Commercial Co. owns five vessels. One of them, the *Bertha* is expected any day and with it will come a party of missionaries and priests. I believe one of the latter is to go to Nushagak and one to the Kuskokwim, but am not positive. Twenty surveyors are also expected, who will survey the boundary between Alaska and British Columbia.

The weather is again cloudy. We expected to sail this forenoon, so on coming to the house after breakfast we began to pack our things, but when we went down to the ship, the captain said that we would not sail until there was more wind, and probably not before to-morrow morning. This evening Mr. Sipary and another gentleman took us through the former chief's house, and we found everything pretty much as we see it in the States. The walls are papered, there is carpet on the floor

and the walls are covered with pictures. The natives dress as we do, but we do not see many women with hats; they generally wear a shawl over their head. They are fond of gay colors and wear hoopskirts and dresses with flounces. I presume these things are sent here from the States to get rid of them. As we were taking our walk this afternoon, we met two little boys hauling fish; one of them was eating a raw one and seemed to enjoy it. This evening we took our things on board of ship, but spent the night in the house on shore.

Monday, 3.—This morning at 5.30 we went on board. On our way we met the sailors and Mr. Sipary driving two refractory cows and carrying a goat. One goat had fled to the mountains, but

they got it later on. Mr. Sipary will take them along. Five native women were on the wharf fishing. We also got hooks and lines and Johnny caught two fish. The *Pearl* is a small sailing vessel, built in 1886, and formerly used for pearl-fishing on the coast of Corea. Captain Hayes comes from New York. There are only two cabins; Sister Bachman and I occupy one and the Captain and Mr. Sipary the other. Johnny will sleep in one of the sailor's bunks. This afternoon one of the sailors slipped off the plank and fell into the water, but was fished out immediately.

We set sail and left Ounalaska at 2.15 P.M., just a week after we arrived.

Tuesday, 4.—To-day we are having cloudy weather, but it is trying to clear. We are lying at anchor since 5 o'clock yesterday evening, as there is no wind. At 6 P.M., they again drew up the anchor, but let it down again at 11 P.M.

Wednesday, 5.—We set sail again at 2 A.M. and at 4 o'clock met the *St. Paul* on her return trip to Ounalaska. Just now we are having favorable wind.

Thursday, 6.—The wind is contrary and the captain says at this rate it will take us about three weeks. I did not get sick this time, but Sister Bachman is quite sick again.

Sunday, 9.—To-day the weather is more pleasant than it has been for some time. It does not seem much like Sunday on our journey as we cannot attend services. I will be glad to get on land again. We saw a number of whales to-day.

Monday, 10.—To-day we are having sunshine, but very rough sailing. We saw land early this morning. Sister Bachman had to lie down again. We were anchored from 12 o'clock at noon until 11 P.M., as the tide was against us. To-day we saw several seals.

Tuesday, 11.—A fine day. We again anchored and this time at the mouth of the Kuskokwim. We proceeded at 11 A.M., but had to stop again at 2.30 this afternoon. We went on deck after supper and saw the sun set at 9 o'clock.

Wednesday, 12.—This is the third day since we are in sight of land, but we have been anchored most of the time as the water is so shallow. We get along very slowly but hope to reach land tomorrow. The captain does not know which way to steer as he is afraid that we will get stuck on a bank. He sent four sailors out in a boat to find

a channel, but we had hardly started before we ran on a bank, and did not get off again until 6 P.M., when we sailed until 7.30.

Thursday, 13.—At 3 A.M. we again set sail and ran ashore at 5 o'clock. We are now twelve miles from the trading-post and must wait until the missionary scow arrives to take us to land. We are having a rain-storm to-day. Now, at 2.30 P.M. we see the missionary scow and bidarkas coming, but they are still at a distance. I will therefore draw to a close as we must make preparations to leave the ship. We are in good health and spirits. May the Lord be with you and us.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

CARMEL, ALASKA, June 6, 1889.

DEAR BRO. R. DE SCHWEINITZ: Our anxiously looked for mail by the fishing vessel was very small, only two letters from Mr. J. B. Roberts. The next vessel brought us seven letters, a third brought us fourteen; but no official news; but from some private letters and from THE MORAVIAN we saw some articles in reference to the assistants for Carmel and Bethel. Quite unexpectedly the steamer *Dora* arrived on June 5, and is now lying anchored in the river. We at once raised our flag, and I made preparations to go to the vessel; but could not start before the tide changed. I was exceedingly anxious to get there because we knew Bro. Schœchert was aboard, and we thought perhaps Sister Bachman and Sister Detterer also. Before I could get away Bro. Schœchert was landed at Nushagak, and came from there to Carmel on foot, along the beach. We were very thankful to the Lord for bringing him to his journey's end in health and safety and were very glad to welcome him into our midst. He told us the sisters were to go to Bethel direct from Ounalaska; we were greatly disappointed, at not seeing them. Our long looked for letters also arrived. Among the letters we missed several, among them from you, which you wrote to come with our early mail. I received two from you, one dated August 7, 1888, and the other April 25, 1889. From your last letter I take that your plans for our school for the future were written in that *lost* letter because you say in your last letter "I hope you will get my letter, written some weeks ago and hence will not repeat what I said then." Besides we see from some letters which we received, that a number of letters which we sent last Fall did not reach their destination. My time is very short, and as I am writing somewhat under difficulties, there being so much mail at once and all our stores to be cared for, and to be brought safely to shore, and the general excitement in connection with the arrival of a new missionary, and all the news of the greater part of the year all at once, combine to make it necessary for me to make this letter short. The steamer will make but a very short stay here. Another sailing vessel is expected here the early part of July, which will merely stay long enough to discharge and take on cargo, and then return to the city, so

we will send as many letters as possible at that time. Since I wrote to you in January I will only refer to what has been done since then. The Winter was a long one, with plenty of snow; but not very cold weather, the coldest was about 12 below zero. Bro. Kilbuck's return trip from Carmel was a long and tedious one of thirty-seven days. They had mourned him as lost some days before his return, and Sister Kilbuck sent out a party of natives in search of his supposed dead body, or to find some trace of him if possible. The party met him some three or four days from home. He was absent in all about seventy-three days. Bro. Kilbuck will no doubt write and tell you all about his trips and experiences and their anxiety at home. We have had two letters from him since his return, they were forwarded by miners from the Yukon River who came by way of Bethel. The news of the great spiritual interest of the natives, and the awakening among them, especially among their school boys, and the additions they made to their congregation were very encouraging to us and cheered us very much.

Our work has gone on as usual, we kept the school as regularly as possible up to May 9, when ~~we were obliged to close our account of the pressure of work and the lack of scholars.~~ I made out the monthly reports from January to May, 1889, in duplicate and send a copy of them to you and one to Dr. Jackson. The attendance you will see was fair to the close, that is with the exception of the last week when the children were absent looking for food. We did not experience any great opposition towards the close of the school year. We rejoice to say that two of our school girls, Sophie and Olga, have of their own free will come forward several times with the request to be confirmed. They are now receiving a thorough catechetical instruction. These are the two Creole girls, from the Yukon River and St. Michaels respectively. Our Mission work must necessarily go very slowly, and I fear it will be years before we will see any great spiritual results amongst the natives right here, as we are now entirely on the Greek priest's domain, and he fills his people with fear and prejudice against us. This also accounts in a measure at least, for our coming so little in contact with the natives; and in this way it will necessarily take us much longer to learn the native language, than when our house was frequently visited by them.

We are indeed glad that Bro. Schœchert has come to assist us. I will now be better able to make visits to distant villages and may in this way be better able to reach the natives and accomplish more good. We are in considerable perplexity now as to where we shall keep Bro. Schœchert, because we have no room for him. We will have to study out some way or other to keep him for a year or so till we can get another building.

Mr. Clark's mail as well as some of ours was by some mistake sent to Ounalaska, instead of directly here by the fishing vessel, and he therefore requested me to wait till a later mail with sending

the bill of expenses incurred the last year. The bills will always be dated from June 1. The amount will be \$158.85. This includes all the expenses for the school, such as oil, etc., for which I sent a bill to Dr. Jackson by this mail. This amounts to \$51. I will send you a duplicate of the bill as I told him to make the payment to you. You will see that the amount of the school expenses of the previous year are still on the bill as I have not received any notice or receipt of their payment either from you or Dr. Jackson to whom I sent an itemized bill. Mr. Clark's bill includes the amount. I drew \$20 to pay for a team of seven (7) dogs. I bought them from a miner, as I did not get the dogs which Lord Lonsdale had promised, because most of his dogs were killed on the way from Nushagak to Katmai. Being overtaken by a storm on the mountains, they got short of food for them. The dogs I have are good strong Yukon dogs, well trained. It may interest you to know that two of them are real missionary dogs. When I received them one was named Parker, and other Chapman. On inquiring I learned that they had been the property sometime ago of the two Episcopal missionaries at Auvik on the Yukon. They sent them to Bro. Kilbuck, who had sent some of his boys to take Mr. Parker from Bethel to Auvik when he was on his way thither from the city via Carmel and Bethel by bidarka. As it was late in the Fall the boys had to return with dogs and sled and these are the dogs that brought them back. A miner who came from the Yukon got them from Bro. Kilbuck and now they are the property of the Carmel Mission; their names have been changed, however.

Our health during the Winter has been pretty good, of course colds and other slight ailments have come and gone and were soon forgotten. Again, Mrs. Wolff's health however has been failing. She had been poorly for some time, but was better again by the time our last mail was sent, and we hoped so earnestly that she would continue to improve that we did not mention it in any of our letters. She grew much worse however and was so sick the latter part of February that I felt quite alarmed. She was able to be up and about her usual duties again sooner than we had dared to hope but has not been at all well. For the last three weeks, however, she had been much better and we hope and pray her usual health may be entirely regained during the Summer.

We have no native women's help, so Mrs. Wolff and Aunt Mary have a great amount of work to do. We can not get any reliable native help.

Mrs. Wolff has not been able to prepare a diary for THE MORAVIAN since New Year, it has been impossible for her to do so. A few extracts from this letter may be of interest to the public. We will again prepare as much as possible as soon as time, health and strength will permit.

I could fill pages, but must close. With kindest regards from our entire mission party,

I remain affectionately yours
F. E. WOLFF.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., AUGUST 28, 1889.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

A Letter from Bro. F. E. Wolff.

CARMEL, ALASKA, July 24, 1889.

DEAR BROTHER REINKE:—At this writing I will only drop you a few lines, as we will send our regular Fall mail in three or four weeks, when I will write to you more at length in regard to our work and for the next year's supplies. We will only send a few letters by this vessel, as it sails a little earlier from here than the rest, and we have not yet got our mail ready. We are all pretty well at present except that Mrs. Wolff is ailing more or less from time to time; I feel quite anxious about her at times.

Since the *Dora* was here in June we have been busy stowing away our year's supplies, which we got at that time, and catching fish and preparing them for use in Winter.

Fish are very scarce this year, and we have to work hard for all that we catch. The fishing season has just about come to a close now. We salted eleven barrels and have dried about 1200 fish. We also sold 500 fish to the cannery, at 5 cents a piece, which will help toward the payment of our coal for the Winter. Day before yesterday we caught over 300 fish.

We have had a very rainy and stormy Summer so far which makes it rather unhealthy.

The superintendant of the Arctic Packing Co. asked us to take one of his fishermen who is very sick, to nurse him and give him medicines. We have now had him for nearly two weeks. He is a young man from Norway, Peterson by name. It appears he is consumptive, and having taken a heavy cold in this wet season seems to have seized a severe hold on his lungs. He is somewhat better at present as the medicines I give him seem to do him good.

Yesterday a sick native came from Togiak, quite a distance from here, and he wants me to doctor him. He appeared to have great pain on his chest, so I introduced him at once to a strong mustard plaster. As the plaster was wet and cold, he made a horrid face when I put it on, but after it was an about ten minutes and it began to burn, he brightened up and said "That is good, that is good. Oh, thank you, that is good."

We keep services on Sunday evenings for the fishermen, which are well attended, and we hope that with the Lord's blessing some good may be done to these men who seldom or never hear anything of the Gospel. Mr. Louis Günther desires me to give his hearty thanks to the Mission Board for the gift they sent him, and his kindest regards to the Brethren. Last week a small vessel, the *Matthew Turner*, came here from Ounalaska and from the captain we learned that it will be late before you will receive our mail, which we sent in

Spring, as the steamer had not yet returned from St. Michaels when he left Ounalaska. We hope they are now on their way to San Francisco.

Our garden does real well this year. We have plenty of radishes and lettuce, so that we can have some every day. The potatoes, turnips and peas also look well.

All the members of the mission family join me in love to you and the members of the Board, and we feel sure you will not cease to intercede for us and our work at the Throne of Grace.

Affectionately Your Friend and Brother,
F. E. WOLFF.

Extracts from Bro. Ernst Louis Weber's Diary, July 29, 1888, to May 31, 1889.

[Several years ago we remember hearing the remark made in the pulpit of the Bethlehem church: "It is time that we Moravians were *making* history!" Without discussing the assertion, the recent news from Bethel, Alaska, proves that the old missionary spirit yet lives in our midst. The diary of Bro. Weber for the year 1888 to 1889 is a sufficient evidence of this, and that the names of those who have gone forth from amongst us to bear the Gospel to Alaska are those of the not unworthy successors of the Brethren Böhnisch, Stack and Beck. A Winter of great severity was that of 1888. The labor necessitated by the circumstances of the situation was incessant and exhausting. The enforced solitude—especially to Bro. Weber—proved a most trying experience. And Bro. Kilbuck's absence, prolonged by storms so much beyond the appointed time, that, hoping against hope, the Bethel watchers—Sister Kilbuck unable to rise from her sick-bed, and Bro. Weber almost overwhelmed with duties and responsibilities—thought to see his face no more, required special grace to be able to bear. When he at last returned, "It just seemed," writes Bro. Weber, "as if Bro. Kilbuck had risen from the dead. I do not believe we would have felt happier if he had. Words can not express the joy that we felt."

Yet the key-note of the past year's experience was: "It is surprising how near the Saviour seems in this far-off place."

And the work, spite of the severe occasional disappointments incidental to missionary labor among the heathen, steadily advances. "Ebenezer, *Hallelujah*;" and let redoubled praise-offerings be laid upon the altar.]

EDWIN J. REINKE.

Grace Hill, August 14, 1889.

BETHEL, KUSKOKWIM RIVER, ALASKA

July 29, 1888.—Yesterday Bro. Kilbuck started down the river with the mail. He will try and get some one to go to Nushagak with it. So I will begin a new journal. It may not be interesting to most folks, but I think most of our own folks will be glad to hear how I spent my first year in Alaska. We had service in the evening; I try to take Bro. Kilbuck's place when he is gone. There were about sixteen present.

30.—A busy day, splitting and planing logs. We hear that one native shot another by accident some days ago.

31.—A rainy day; could not do much. Mrs. Kilbuck and I traded for about 290 dried fish to-day.

August 1.—It rained some to day. Bro. Kilbuck came home about four o'clock this morning. They had to go all night, to get here by morning. Bro. Kilbuck wanted to be here to open school. I began school to-day.

2.—I began school with eight scholars. Alexi and Mattie left us this evening.

3.—I took a long boat-ride after school. I have to help Mrs. Kilbuck some in the house now.

4.—I made all preparations to start up the river to buy fish for the school this Winter. But it began to storm and rain; so I did not start.

A TRIP UP THE RIVER FOR FISH.

6.—It is still raining. But I and one of the boys started up the river in the bidarka. I sat in the front hole, and paddled till noon, and then I got one of the school-boys, who was at his home, to paddle for me. We got to the first large village about 10 o'clock at night. It rained almost all day, and I was cold and wet. I had bought a few fish during the day. So we pitched our tent and boiled our fish; and were glad to turn in for the night.

7.—It has been raining most all night, and some of our bedding got wet. After breakfast, I began to trade for fish. I found it quite a disagreeable job. I bought what would be equal to 600 or 700 fish. After putting them all in one fish-house, I started on up the river. I caught up to the scow [apparently sent on ahead] in the evening; and as there was not much wind, we let down the anchor and slept there all night.

8.—I stayed with the scow all day. But as there was not much wind, we could not make headway. I bought over a hundred fish to-day.

9.—I left the scow early this morning, and got to the next large village about 10 o'clock. I bought up all the fish, and left about 1 o'clock. We chopped some logs in the afternoon. We camped out on the bank for the night, and had fresh fish for supper.

10.—We chopped some more logs this morning. We got to the next village about noon. The folks at this village were very poor. I had never seen the natives quite so bad off before. I bought about 600 fish at this village. I traded mostly for handkerchiefs—very large ones—and for tea and sugar. We left this village about 4 o'clock, and got to another small one about eight. Here I bought quite a number more fish. As most of my trading material was gone, I concluded not to try and buy any more fish, but to go on and make up a raft to bring the fish down on, till I would meet the scow; for I thought likely they would not get up so far.

11.—I went up the river quite a distance, and chopped all the large drift logs that I could find. These are generally nice, smooth logs, with the stumps on. We have to chop off the stumps and roll the logs to the edge of the water. I chopped

till about four or five o'clock, and then began to gather them up and tie them together. It was a warm day, but the water was quite cold. I got myself all wet up to the waist before evening. We did not get them together before it was quite dark. We wanted to get back to the village if we could. It got quite late before we got there, and I was very cold; in fact, colder than I had been since I am in Alaska. But I had a change of clothes along, so we put up our tent and I hurried into some dry clothes. The natives were very kind, and brought us some boiled fish and made a large fire for us to get warm.

12.—I got the natives to fix my raft and load the fish, and we started down the river. We did not go very far before we met Augustus, coming with the scow. They had a fair wind, and got up farther than I thought they would. They were quite a distance beyond Tulicksok. We loaded the fish on the scow and were drifting down the river. I stayed on the raft, and left the three boys to bring the scow. I had two boys with me. When it got dark, we had quite a job to get the raft to shore; for the river is broad, and the current quite swift.

We finally got the raft fast to a tree standing in the water. Then we had to go about a mile to get the scow. The boys boiled some tea, and I opened a can of fruit. That was our supper, with some sea-biscuits. We shut the scow all up, so that the mosquitoes could not get in; for they are quite bad yet.

13.—I divided the boys up this morning. I sent two with the raft and two with the scow, and took one with me to gather up logs that we had chopped along the beach. But toward noon it began to blow very hard, so that we could not do anything with the logs. So we had to quit. I had left most everything in the scow with the intention of sleeping there again at night. I just had a little dry bread with me. So we left our work and started for the next village to sleep and see what has become of the boys. The waves rolled very high. Sometimes we would be on top of a wave and then between; and it would look as though they would cover us. But we got there about 5 o'clock, and found the boys. They left the raft on the way; and the scow was there at the village all right.

In the evening, the natives at this village had one of their dances, mostly for my especial benefit. It is more of a feast than anything else. They had a great many berries; and as they did not have any clean dishes for me, they turned my hat inside out and filled it up for me. It is surprising how many some of them can eat; often half a gallon of salmon-berries. They also had their ice-cream and sour fish-heads, and dry fish. They had two young women to dance. I wish I could make you understand how it was. First the folks get everything ready. They stretch a cord all full of dried birds across the room, and stick them up everywhere. They have small birds on the cord and large ones on the wall, such as large owls. Then the boys and young men all get down in the middle of the room * * with sticks in their

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hands. They have two tambourines to beat time on. Then the women come in, all fixed up in grand style. One had a sharpened stick through her nose, and was all covered with beads. Then the singing began. It seemed more like an Indian war-dance to me than anything else. The women would make all kinds of motions. They kept good time, and I must say it looked rather graceful. The boys keep time with their sticks. They do not strike anything, but just make motions. It lasted till about ten o'clock. I then went to the scow to sleep. The boat was almost full of fish—just a small place at one end.

14.—It is still storming and it looks a little doubtful if we can get to do anything to-day. About 8 o'clock I got the boys to go with me back where we left our logs. It is still rough, and the boys do not like to go. But I have hopes that by the time we get there, it will be better. It takes us till one o'clock till we get there, and the prospect is very bad, for it is still blowing. The boys lay down to sleep till it gets better. About 2 o'clock it gets somewhat better, so that we get our raft off the sand and start back. It is very rough at first, but soon gets better. We gather up the rest of the logs, and by dark we have them all together. But this is no easy job; for we get the raft out in the current, and are going quite fast, when we see another log, fast the shore. I send two boys to get it and a few others along the beach. They fasten them together with a small rope. The rope breaks, and the boys can do nothing but hold them together; and we are drifting to the middle of the river. I call to them to bring them to the raft, and they say they can not. So I get in the bidarka. I take the front hole, and a strong boy takes the back; and in the middle, we have a smaller boy to hold the rope. Then we pull as we never have pulled before, to get the raft to shore. It takes all our efforts; and then it is almost impossible to get it out of the current. But we finally get near enough to reach shore with a long rope; so we go for shore as fast as we can, and fasten the rope to a tree; and the raft comes to a stand still. We then hurry out to help the boys with their logs; the two boys in the canoe and we three in the bidarka. We finally get to shore and get the logs all fast to the raft and start out again. It is now quite dark. But we want to get to the village to sleep; so we keep on, drifting down the river. It gets quite cool in the

night; and as we are somewhat wet we get quite cold. At 2 o'clock in the morning, we get to the village. I do not wait for the boys to get the tea, but put up my tent, eat a cold bite and go to bed, leaving the boys to boil the tea-kettle at their leisure.

15.—This morning I got two boys that did not do much yesterday to go with me to get the raft that the boys left in the storm. We found it high and dry on a sand-bar. So we had to take it all apart to get it in the water again. We got back to the village about 2 o'clock. I had Alexi and Mattie (our old help) to fry me some fish. I put the two rafts in one, and it made a very large one. At 5 o'clock we started down the river in

grand style. I left Augustus and two other boys to bring the scow, and took two boys, with me. We all left together. We made quite an interesting picture—the boys in the scow and we on the raft, with the whole village sitting on the bank. We made all preparations to sleep on the raft, so we did not stop all night. We passed the next large village about 11 o'clock, but did not stop. I told the boys with the scow to stop and get the fish. As there was a dead calm, we went faster than the scow.

16.—I had to get up every short time during the night and paddle, to keep the raft from running into trees along the bank. About noon to-day we had to stop, for the tide was coming in. We had to wait about an hour. It began to rain in the afternoon and was very unpleasant. The current runs very slow down here, so that it is very tiresome. We could see the Mission about 5 o'clock, but it still took an hour before we got there. I was very glad to get there again.

INCIDENTS OF THE LIFE AT BETHEL.

August 25.—The mosquitoes have been gone for several weeks already, and everything begins to look like Fall. Everything goes on the same each day. I teach school five hours and see that the boys do the little work they have to do. To-day one of the natives struck one of the school-boys with a stick on the head, just because he told him not to tear the tent. Bro. Kilbuck told him to go, but he said he wouldn't. So Bro. Kilbuck helped him to start a little. I am getting quite stout; all my clothes are getting too tight. I weighed myself at Mr. Lind's, and I weigh 156 pounds; 21 more than when I first left home.

26.—Another nice day. Bro. Kilbuck held the service in the native language this morning. He had thirty-two persons at the service. Bro. Kilbuck took Mrs. Kilbuck and the children out for a boat-ride this morning.

28.—We had no school to-day. Bro. Kilbuck wanted the boys to bank up the new house. I was busy making benches for the school-house.

29.—We had intended to have a picnic over on the Island to-day. But it was like most picnic days—it rained all day!

September 1.—No school. I boiled down thirty pounds of sugar. We have heard that there are three miners at Kolmakovsky, and that they have found gold.

20.—[On September 3 Bro. Weber started up the Kuskokwim on an eighteen days' trip for an additional supply of fish.] I found Mrs. Kilbuck looking very bad. She has been quite sick. She has not been well for a long time.

21.—I have to turn in and be cook and jack-of-all-trades, now Mrs. Kilbuck is too weak to do any work. I tried my hand at baking bread and frying fish for the first time [to-day]. I am fixing the houses for cold weather. I put up some fire protectors that were sent up this year, and took a sweat-bath at the post this afternoon.

22.—I did all the cooking again to-day. Mrs. Kilbuck tells me what and how to cook. I do the best I can. They say I do real well. I had

two geese to roast and the dressing to make; which was altogether a new experience for me.

25.—This is Sunday. I took a walk out to the grave-yard. There are three graves now; Bro. Torgersen is no longer alone.

October 2.—I baked twelve loaves of fine bread. I had splendid luck. Mrs. Kilbuck is trying to do some sewing.

7.—The tundra is all frozen. One can walk everywhere. It is a very pleasant day. I took a long walk after dinner, and enjoyed the day very much. I feel happy and contented. We often have Mr. Lind for a visitor. He was here for supper.

14.—We have our dark days here as elsewhere. I felt very despondent this evening, and turned to my Bible for comfort. I happened to open it at the 116th Psalm. It was the source of great comfort to me. Oh, this Book, the Bible, is a wonderful Book!

12.—I have all the managing about the food for the boys and the working-folks. I give the boys some kind of mush in the evening, and bread in the morning. When we have mush, I set the kettle on the floor. Each boy has a tin plate, tin spoon and tin cup. I give each one his share, and then ask the blessing. Then they all pitch in. The rest of the folks get bread.

November. 21.—There are lots of folks around now. Some natives from up the river brought a crazy woman to the post. Her nephew, her nearest relative, wanted to leave her on the ice to freeze to death. But his son would not let him. He said if he had enough money, he would like to hire some white man to shoot her.

29.—Thirty-three degrees below zero last night. But I do not feel it as much as I thought I would. I have felt colder at home when it was zero.

30.—We have heard that there is an English lord over on the Yukon River, on his way to Nushagak. One of the traders, by the name of Belkoff, is with him as guide. They are passing through, about thirty miles below us. They sent us word that if Bro. Kilbuck was going down to Nushagak, he should come on, for he could catch them; for they were going very slowly. Bro. Kilbuck will start next Monday. We are all busy writing letters for him to take along; for this lord will travel down the coast, with dog-team, to where the vessels come quite early.

December 3.—Bro. Kilbuck started for Nushagak, and we all felt that it was quite an undertaking. We are all alone now. And we feel alone, too.

THE SEVENTY-THREE DAYS ALONE.

5.—We have a very bad snow-storm—the worst we have had this Winter. We hope Bro. Kilbuck has a good place to stop.

6.—Very cold; forty-five degrees below zero.

10.—I often have to do all kinds of work since Mrs. Kilbuck is not well. The sun sets before 4 o'clock, and rises after 9.

19.—Mrs. Kilbuck has not been feeling well for several days. She has a bad sore throat, and is feeling bad every way. I have my hands full with teaching school and all the other work.

27.—It has not been very cold for a long time. The thermometer does not go much below zero [!]. and at times it is 35 degrees above. We have had very little frost on the windows for a long time.

30.—Mrs. Kilbuck is feeling quite bad. She is hardly able to be up. It takes all my time now to teach school and help her what I can.

January 3.—It was 39 degrees below zero last night. Little Katie is not feeling well, and is very cross and fretful. And Mrs. Kilbuck is almost bedfast; she is either on the lounge or in her easy-chair all the time. We do all we can to comfort each other in our lonely hours.

5.—We are beginning to look for Bro. Kilbuck home most any time now.

7.—Mrs. Kilbuck is no better. It is somewhat warmer again.

8.—I must confess I felt the dreariness of this place * * to-day * *. We are looking for Bro. Kilbuck home every day, and are always disappointed. We try and cheer each other up all we can. But when evening comes, and Bro. Kilbuck is still away, and Mrs. Kilbuck is no better, and it seems as if she was always getting weaker, and all discouraged, I am almost ashamed to confess it is more than we can do to keep the lump down in our throats. And then we cheer up, and take new courage, and think we will trust the Lord more in the future.

9.—But no one that has not been under the same circumstances can imagine what a load of care there is in such a place as this.

11.—We had a heavy snow last night.

13.—It is now six weeks since Bro. Kilbuck started for Nushagak, which is much longer than we expected him to be gone.

14.—We had our faith tried very strongly today. It has been a day of joy and of sorrow.

First, this morning we saw a large team of dogs come around the upper side of the Island, and we thought sure that it was Bro. Kilbuck. We all ran out of school, and Mrs. Kilbuck was weak with excitement. But we were disappointed; for it turned in at Mr. Lind's. Shortly after, we saw Mr. Lind coming on a run. So we knew there was some news. I could see in his face that he had bad news. He said we should come over to his house, and we would talk it over. He said there were some natives up from below, who told him that Mr. Belkoff, the trader who went down to Nushagak as guide for the English lord, had got back, and was at the village just below here. That Mr. Belkoff had waited three days at Nushagak, and had not seen Bro. Kilbuck there, or on his way back.—No news could have been worse. You can imagine what our feelings were. * * Before eleven, I saw another large team come; so I ran up to the post. I found Mr. Belkoff had arrived. And how can I express the joy that I felt to hear that he had seen Bro. Kilbuck, and that he had a letter for Mrs. Kilbuck from him, and one for me from Bro. Wolff. Why he told the natives what he did, I do not know, unless it was out of pure meanness. I ran all the way home and waved my hat to let the folks know I had good news. I can not write everything; but you can imagine

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the rest. The letter that we got told us that Bro. Kilbuck was within three days' journey of Nushagak, and that he had very bad roads; but that he was well, and expected to be soon with Bro. Wolff; which gave us all new courage. Mr. Bellkoff told us not to look for Bro. Kilbuck before two weeks, and not to feel uneasy if he did not come for three. It has been a day that we will not forget soon. But we can not help feeling thankful that the suspense was not longer.

15.—The folks are all quite well except Mrs. Kilbuck, who is almost bedfast all the time. We have two women to help in the house and take care of the children.

18.—Mrs. Kilbuck did not feel well enough this morning, for the first time, to get up for breakfast.

22.—The days are getting much longer. The sun rises about half-past eight, and sets at a quarter of four.

23.—The time is getting long, and we are looking for Bro. Kilbuck every day.

24.—To-day there were several large teams up from below. We thought sure one was Bro. Kilbuck. It turned out to be natives. It is always harder to wait, after we have had such a disappointment.

26.—Mrs. Kilbuck can hardly bear the suspense any longer. We can not understand why Bro. Kilbuck does not come. We all got weighed to-day.

27.—No one can imagine what a heavy heart I carry every day on account of Bro. Kilbuck's long stay. But what can we do but wait from day to day, and trust the Lord to bring him home safe in due time?

29.—To-day it is very stormy and cold.

30.—It is storming worse to-day than yesterday. Our wood is about all gone. We did not expect Bro. Kilbuck to be gone much longer than four weeks, and now it is over eight. We had intended to use the dogs to haul wood when he got back, and now the wood is almost all gone—the logs that we had intended for building and all. And we have just four dogs here now. And we do not know when Bro. Kilbuck will get back. It looks dark. But I guess there will be a way to get through.

31.—It storms worse than ever.

February 1.—The weather is somewhat better, but it still storms quite bad. Katie is still feeling bad. And this evening the baby took sick. He has a high fever, and seems to be delirious.

2.—Our wood is all gone. I went with two of our boys to the timber, which is about two miles away, to see if we could get some dry wood. I did not have any snow-shoes, and so had a hard time to get there. When we got to the timber, I could not walk at all, but had to go on hands and knees; for the snow was about three feet deep. I could not do much chopping. But the boys had snow-shoes, so they got along quite well. It took me two hours to go home; so you can guess what a time I had.

3.—It is now sixty-four days since Bro. Kilbuck left us; and the suspense is each day harder to

bear. I am beginning to lose courage, and think that something must have happened. The two children are quite sick * *.

Mr. Lind has kindly consented to send a team to meet Mr. Kilbuck, or find out what has become of him, in the morning [*i. e.*, the 4th]. I have written a long letter to Bro. Wolff and one to Bro. Kilbuck. I hope we will see him soon; although we have given up almost all hope. But we still trust that the Lord will hear our prayers and bring him home safe.

4.—This morning Mrs. Kilbuck packed some things in a box to send to Mr. Kilbuck. But, I do not like to say, we did not expect he would ever see them. I will not try to express our feelings on this morning. For it is worse than if we had seen him laid in the grave. For we felt sure that he had been lost in a snow-storm. What anguish fills my heart, words can not express. I have just taken my Text Book, and in prayer opened it at July 26, 1889 ["Watch ye; stand fast in the faith; quit you like men; be strong"], and it has been the source of great comfort to me.

6.—Forty-one degrees below zero last night. During the storm last week, it was fifty-nine degrees below; which is the coldest it has been here for a long time.

7.—Still no word from Bro. Kilbuck. If we did not feel the presence of the Lord with us as we do, it would be more than we could bear. But we trust that His grace is sufficient for us.

8.—Thirty-two degrees last night; thirty degrees this morning. We are trying to get up some wood. I hauled wood in the afternoon. The roads are getting better. If we only had eight or nine dogs, it would go all right.

9.—Thirty-six degrees below zero last night. We are beginning to make our plans as if Bro. Kilbuck were not coming.

10.—Fifty-six degrees below last night; 54 at sunrise; 44 at noon and 36 at 2 o'clock.

BRO. KILBUCK'S RETURN.

14.—When we least expect it, the Lord answers our prayers. This morning, about 11 o'clock, we saw two large teams come around the Island. But we had so completely given Bro. Kilbuck up, that I did not think of him. When I saw them, some of the boys said, "Who is that? Lets get the glass." Pretty soon they said they believed it was Bro. Kilbuck. Then we all looked; but were afraid to say it was he, for fear we should be disappointed.

Mr. Lind was here. He said it was he. Pretty soon he waved his hand, and then we knew that it was he: and words can not express the joy that we felt. Mr. Lind and I ran down to meet him. Mrs. Kilbuck and the children were standing by the house, waiting. And it just seemed as if Mr. Kilbuck had risen from the dead. I do not believe we should have felt happier if he had.

The weather had been so bad that Bro. Kilbuck had had to stop at one village, at times, five and six days. He did not get to Nushagak till December 29. He left on January 9. He says he traveled just seventeen days on his way home. The rest of the time, he had to stop in the villages. He was thirty-six days on his way home.

February 20.—There have been quite a number of the school-boys asking Bro. Kilbuck to join our Church. And from all that I can see, I think they are sincere. And it makes us all feel very much encouraged. We expect to have Communion the day after we celebrate Christmas.

22.—We had a large Christmas exercise this evening. I know it is far past the time; but I do not think we could have enjoyed it more at any other time. I, for my part, enjoyed it more than I have any Christmas for years. I find that the secret of true happiness is making others happy. We gave each one a small gift, and they all seemed so happy. I think we had at least one hundred at our celebration. We have every reason to feel encouraged. Quite a number asked to take Communion with us; and three couples have asked to be married. Two are to be baptized; Procopi's smallest child, and Augustus, our school-boy.

23.—This has been a very busy and happy day. Bro. Kilbuck married three couples; this makes five that he has married now. Augustus and Procopi's child were baptized. About sixty-five persons were here for a festival. We gave them boiled land-otter and rabbit and fish, thickened with rice. They also had a lot of native ice-cream.

24.—This has been a solemn day for us all. We had the pleasure of taking in nine boys as members. We have now twenty-four communicant members. But it will be a long time before we can see the real change a Christian life ought to bring. But we always have to bear in mind that we are working among heathen; and we can not expect too much of them.

March 7.—Bro. Kilbuck started on a missionary trip, and expects to be gone several days.

11.—Mr. Boyd [a visiting carpenter] had intended to start to-day. But Bro. Kilbuck said if he would wait till to-morrow, he would go along up to the mountains, and get him a guide to go across. Bro. Kilbuck has been wanting to go up there for some time, and see the people.

17.—I enjoy the Sabbaths more, now that we have service regularly at 11 o'clock, in the school-house. We are learning several new hymns for Easter. "Hallelujah, He is risen," and "Just as I am;" and have learned several during the Winter, such as "All hail the power of Jesus' Name;" "Little drops of water;" "Tell me the old, old story;" "What a friend we have in Jesus;" "Jesus makes my heart rejoice," and others.

24.—Bro. Kilbuck almost always reads the Liturgy at our Sunday-morning service. I think in the course of time we will have a nice church here. It is such a comfort to know that the Lord is as near here as anywhere else. And we often feel His presence with us.

25.—Bro. Kilbuck had intended to go to the first large village above here, this morning, to see the people **. But he is not feeling well. And as he had promised to go, he thought I had better go.

April 18.—Munday-Thursday. We only worked half a day.

19.—We had service three times to-day; morning and evening in Native, and afternoon in English.

21.—Easter-Sunday. We had native service at 10 o'clock and Communion at 3 P.M. Bro. Kilbuck married a couple. All services were well attended.

BRO. WEBER'S NATIVE NAME.

Perhaps it would be interesting to you to know what they call me here. When I first came, little Katie called me Siperlets. I don't know why, unless it was because Mr. Sipary was here at that time and the name was fresh in her memory. After a while she changed it to Siperluska; so some of the natives use that name. But I am known everywhere as Cosicchau, which means, the little Kosic or white man. Mrs. Kilbuck tries to get them to call me Mr. Weber. But they say that is too hard. Siperluska is easy.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., SEPTEMBER 11, 1889.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Extracts from Bro. Schoechert's Diary.

CARMEL, Nushagak River, Alaska.

June 8.—We got up early and at 3 o'clock A.M. Bro. Wolff and I went down to the *Dora*, about five miles from here, for the remainder of the goods, returning at 7 A.M., it began raining, but we had to keep on transferring the goods from the beach to the house. We were very busy all day and were glad when it was done; for it was quite a job to get the things up the banks and then to the house. As this is fishing season we will get to work as soon as possible.

9.—My first Sunday in Alaska. We slept a little long for we were really tired. At eleven o'clock we had service. After a hearty welcome to me, Bro. Wolff preached on our Lord's ascending into heaven. His sending the Holy Ghost and instructing His disciples to preach the Gospel throughout the earth. In the afternoon we had Sunday-school and in the evening walked along the beach and looked at the garden crops, which seemed to be doing well. When the king salmon are running, none of the fishermen have time to come to service.

10.—In the forenoon we got ready the fishing net and boat, but as the wind was blowing hard and the water was very rough, we thought it best not to venture out. So we began to unpack the boxes.

11.—Though the wind blew hard we went fishing, and caught three king salmon, weighing about 100 pounds.

12.—We rose early, so as to go down the river with the tide and to return when it rises. We caught two and lost three fish. We are gaining experience and have less to learn every time we

go out. Our boat is of good size, fitted for a sail and four oars and will carry over two tons. As yet we row, for we are not well enough acquainted with sailing. The net is forty fathoms or 240 feet long and 9 feet wide, with a line of cork floats at the top and of lead sinkers at the bottom.

13.—We unpacked the camera; and then cleaned some fish for salting down. It is raining and quite windy. I set out some cabbage, lettuce and endive plants.

14.—Bro. Wolff and I were somewhat more successful to-day; for we caught twenty king salmon, weighing about 400 pounds. All but two of them we canned, getting seven cases of forty-eight one pound cans each. We bought the cans from the Canning Company, whose place is about 60 rods from the station. They boiled the fish for us. The company employs about 100 Chinese and 60 white men, who do the fishing, etc. The nets which they use in the king salmon season are from 80 to 120 fathoms long and 3 fathoms wide.

15.—The tide turned just when dinner was ready, but as "time and tide wait for no man," we did without our dinner, taking instead a piece of bread. We had a good run, catching 34 fish which weighed, at least, 600 pounds. These we will salt. It rained almost all day.

16.—My second Sunday in Alaska. At the morning service Bro. Wolff read the litany and preached on John 3: 11-13. Sunday-school in the afternoon. The children seemed to enjoy the day very much. As the weather was nice they could play outside. In the evening it rained.

17.—I sowed some timothy and blue-grass seed, and then we mended our net which is in poor condition. The canneries have new nets every season, but our net was used last year. We also loaded the shells for the guns, but there is not much to hunt at this time of the year. Salted down three barrels of fish.

18.—Bro. Wolff, who is very practical in all such work, mended the wash-boiler. We bought some salt at the cannery, as we expect to use about 600 pounds for salting fish. We had stored our flour at Mr. Louis Gunther's house near the beach, and brought it home to-day, 40 sacks of 50 pounds each; also six sacks of beans, weighing 75 pounds to the sack. The natives are very busy, drying fish and packing away the fish heads which they get from the cannery. Their way of doing the last is to make a hole in the ground, place a little grass at the bottom, put in the fish heads, cover them, and leave them till the next Spring when food becomes scarce. They do not like salt, but are glad to get sugar, tea, bread, etc. They also seem to be very fond of dressing themselves like white people, but such clothing is rather high in price. They also try to bake bread, but as they have no stoves they only succeed in making a sort of paste. We went out fishing, but caught none.

19.—We obtained some posts and round timber from the cannery and put up a rack for drying fish. The frost is out of the ground $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and in some places more. The weather has been very

fine and windy and the mosquitoes are showing themselves. I went to Nushagak to see if I could find some of our goods as several packages were missing; but found none. To-night one of the head natives was drunk; he must have got the whisky from a Chinaman.

20.—A fine day. We are making a frame to hang the bell on the school-house. The bell weighs about 150 pounds and is of steel, with a very good sound. I watched the natives until six o'clock, P.M., to see if they were catching any fish. We wished to go out, but if the Eskimo does not catch any, there is no use of our trying.

21.—Fine sunshine, and warm weather for vegetables. Bro. Wolff made some bolts, 2 feet long, for fastening the bell-frame on the school-house. The frame is strongly made and there is no danger that it will come down. The thermometer showed 70 degrees Fahrenheit.

22.—We fished all day and caught seven salmon. It was a splendid day.

23.—My third Sunday here. I rang the bell at ten o'clock and at 10.30 A.M. The ringing seems to surprise the natives. The services were as usual. It was a fine day and to-night everything is quiet. The natives are catching very many fish, but some of them called on us to-day.

24.—Getting up early we fished all day, catching 170 fish and losing fully as many as we caught. As the net was so poor some of the fish went right through it, leaving the holes for others to pass through.

25.—We wheeled the fish home from the beach and got a few more nets from the cannery. Old nets don't cost anything.

26.—A very fine day, 80 degrees in the sun, 70 degrees in the shade. The sun rose at 3 A.M. and set at 9.10 P.M. We cleaned and salted 87 king salmon which filled six barrels, and weighed 1200 pounds. The silver salmon and other fish we put out to dry. To-day a vessel arrived from San Francisco to ship the canned salmon from the cannery. It left the city on May 25, but brought no mail for any of us.

27.—A fine day, with several thunder-showers. We went to two of the canneries to get some hanging twine and corks for the net. One cannery is four miles distant, and the other, which belongs to the Arctic Packing Company, from whom Bro. Wolff bought the boat this Spring, is eight miles away. The foreman had gone out to bury one of the fishermen. He was drowned two weeks ago and was found in a fisherman's net twenty miles from here. While we were absent, Mr. Clark, Mr. Edge and the captain of the ship called at the Mission-house.

28.—We prepared some fish for smoking and then went to work at the net, which we shall tan, to make it more durable. Real warm weather, with sunshine.

29.—Last night one of the fishermen gave Bro. Wolff a cat, which amuses the children very much. After fixing the net we put it in oak-bark tan at the cannery, and then hung up the fish to smoke. Mosquitoes are becoming very plentiful

and mosquito-shields come very handy. The fishermen put screens over their heads.

30.—I rang the bell at the usual time for service. We expected some fishermen for the morning service, but none came; and in the evening only Mr. Gunther came. Most of the fishermen were out fishing and had a good haul. The weather was very fine, with plenty of wind, so that the mosquitoes had to keep pretty well hidden.

July 1.—We caught 154 small fish, weighing from eight to fifteen pounds a piece and, as we came back, stopped at the vessel to see a sailor whose leg had been badly hurt. Bro. Wolff had given him medicine and he is getting better. The weather was cold with a few spells of rain, but no mosquitoes.

2.—We wheeled home the fish from the shore, got a few natives to clean them and Jacob hung them up to dry. We found fish more scarce to-day and caught only eighty-seven. On our way home we stopped at our potato patch, about one mile from the house. Some of the seed which Bro. Wolff planted on May 15 was that which he had raised last year, though they were rather small. The grass looks very good, being over a foot high. The weather was fine, but very cool in the evening.

3.—We caught 220 fish, but were obliged to go home sooner than we had intended as Bro. Wolff had a very bad headache. The weather has been cool and windy. At present (nine o'clock in the evening) it is raining. If the weather to-morrow is favorable we will have a picnic, going by boat to a place about three miles from the Mission-house where there are a number of small spruce trees.

4.—During the forenoon we were kept busy wheeling home the fish we caught the day before. We also got 300 "dog-salmon" from the cannery, which they had thrown away. These fish are not very good to eat, but they serve as well for food for the dogs in Winter as any other kind. Each dog will require about 1500 fish as a winter supply and we have ten dogs. We had a splendid afternoon for the picnic. On our way to the place Mrs. Wolff was not very well, but she soon recovered, and all of us, especially the children, enjoyed our picnic very much. There were thirteen of us, including Mr. Louis Gunther who was able to get away from his work. We came home a little after nine o'clock, in time to pull down our flag at sunset.

5.—We cleaned and salted three barrels or 600 pounds of fish and hung up the rest to dry, some of them in the smoke-house. The day was very cool and windy.

6.—We cleaned the cistern, broke the sprouts from the old potatoes, and made a hot-bed for next Spring. We used straw, grass and fish-offal for manure, and hope to be able to raise some early vegetables next Spring. We also hoed the potatoes and visited Judas, one of Bro. Wolff's scholars, who has rheumatism and a very bad cold, and seems to suffer much. His mother sat by his side, watching over him.

As the ship will leave in an hour's time I must close with best greetings to all.

Your affectionate brother,
JOHN SCHÖECHERT.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Extracts from Brother Schœchert's Diary.

July 8.—Went out fishing, but met with little success. Then with beams and posts from the cannery we enlarged the drying rack.

July 9.—Rainy to-day, which suits us as the cistern was empty and the sail was dry. This morning we enjoyed our first radishes. The Chinese at the cannery had been sprinkling their gardens for some time.

July 10.—It rained all day, and our cistern which holds 700 gallons is full, as are also our ten water barrels. We generally use rain water for household purposes. Brother Wolff set about making a skiff.

July 11.—I was out fishing to-day with two of the boys, who, however, could not help much, being too young.

July 13.—Mr. Jenson asked Bro. Wolff to take one of the fishermen who is sick; we received him at noon. We attended the Greek service at Nushagak, and were afterwards kindly invited by the priest to visit him, which we did, bidding him return the call some time. Whilst at Mr. Clark's store we saw some walrus tusks. He made us a present of two; one we shall send to the Mission Board, the other to the Theological Seminary.

July 14.—At service this evening quite a number of fishermen were present. The most of them enjoy joining in the singing. They seem to be much touched at being in the presence of their sick companion, whose bed is in the school-house where we have services.

July 17.—Our fishing was more successful to-day. We took 89 fishes to the cannery, and received 5 cents apiece. They are very short of fishes.

July 18.—To-day we disposed of 106 fishes to the cannery. In the evening the *Matthew Turner* arrived with very little mail for us, however.

July 19.—The *Pearl* had returned to Ounalaska before the *Turner* left; so when I went to Nushagak to-day the Captain was able to tell me about the voyage of the sisters to the Kuskokwim.

July 20.—We went to Nushagak by boat to get the merchandise brought for us in the *Turner*. She had five head of cattle for Mr. Clark, which seem to very much astonish the natives.

July 21.—At the morning service I read one of Mr. Moody's sermons on Trusting. We seemed to need such a message. Sister Wolff is not well at present. In Sunday-school we studied about the woman who touched the hem of the Saviour's garment and was healed. At the evening service, 18 fishermen were present.

July 22.—Our fishing to-day was very successful, 294 fishes caught.

July 23.—We attended to a number of sick natives to-day. The fisherman seems much the same. He feels the changes of the weather very much. It appears to us as though he has consumption. He is only 21 years of age. He can sit up part of the day.

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BETHLEHEM, PA., JUNE 19, 1889.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

List of Contributions of Clothing, etc.

The following is a list of the contributions of clothing, merchandise, etc., received by or reported to the Committee:

Lititz congregation, one tierce assorted merchandise.
Utica congregation, one box assorted merchandise, East Utica Mission, one box merchandise, one Singer sewing machine and outfit.
New Westfield Indian Mission, Kansas, one box household supplies.
From the Ladies of the First Church of Philadelphia, one box assorted merchandise.
From the Ladies of the Second Church, Philadelphia, two packages.
From the Society of Willing Workers, Bethania, N. C., one package.
From the Ladies of the Riverside congregation, N. J., one package.
From the Ladies of the Nazareth congregation, one barrel merchandise, one roll homemade carpet.
From "Helping Hands Circle," German Moravian Church, New York City, one package of clothing.
From the Coopersburg, Pa., Sunday-school, one box assorted merchandise.
From Castleton Corners, S. I., one box supplies.
From C. E. Kummer, Boston, one box clothing.
From Philadelphia, one box for Katie Kilbuck.
From Mrs. Harvey, Brooklyn, N. Y., one package salve.
From Mrs. Thompson, Newbury, Penna., one package.
From Mrs. E. Leibert, Nazareth, Pa., two packages.
From Miss Carrie E. Grunert, Nazareth, Pa., two packages.
From Richard Wolff, Newfoundland, Pa., one box merchandise.
From R. Wolff, Stroudsburg, Pa., one box merchandise.
"Busy Workers," Bethlehem, Pa., packages of useful articles.
The Helping Ten of the King's Daughters, Bethlehem, Pa., a lot clothing made up.
South Bethlehem congregation, a lot of clothing made up.
Sewing Society of Laurel Street Chapel, a lot of clothing made up.
Ladies of the Bethlehem congregation, a lot of clothing made up.
Fifty packages from Friends in Bethlehem.

Your Brethren,

R. DE SCHWEINITZ,
J. SAMUEL KRAUSE,
JOSEPH H. TREGER.

July 25.—The vessel will leave to-day, earlier than we expected. Geese and ducks are beginning to show themselves, also snipes. The potatoes are now the size of a dove's egg. Radishes and lettuce are doing well with us.

July 31.—This is a warm day, 89 degrees in the sun; and a nice breeze is blowing. I cut turf, which I have been engaged in for several days. Our potatoes are doing well. The soil is sand mixed with red clay. When I returned home, Bro. Wolff told me poor little Ray had broken his arm. Bro. Wolff made an angular splice and then bound up the arm which he kept cool with arnica and water. John, the cook from the cannery thinks it is not actually broken. May the Lord soon make the dear boy well.

August 1.—Some of the cannery men came to express their sympathy about Ray. I finished cutting turf. It is of good quality, from eight inches to two feet thick and is found about six inches beneath the surface of the ground.

August 2.—Ray is getting along very nicely. We fixed up 96 cans of salmon to-day. Some we intend to send as a present home to the States and some to Bethel with their Fall mail.

August 3.—To-day we took about 500 fishes out of the smoke-house, and packed them away, replacing them with other dried ones. Mr. Haller, Supt. of the Bristol Bay Canning Co., and Mr. Cole, the Capt. of their ship, paid us a visit to-day. Mr. Haller kindly offered to bring us lumber for this station next Spring.

August 4.—Mr. Louis who recently returned from a trip of about two weeks, paid us a visit. He will stay here again this Winter, and will help us all he can in getting scholars, etc.

August 7.—A fine day, 92 degrees in the sun. The sun now rises at 4 o'clock and sets at 8. We were made happy to-day by news from Bro. Kilbuck and the other friends at Bethel, through a miner, who arrived here to-day, though he brought no mail. He had five more companions who came with him from the Yukon. They were all used up. Two of them will spend the Winter here. I visited the men of the cannery, who will soon be leaving. Ray's arm is improving. He can play out of doors. The sick fisherman is also getting better.

BETHLEHEM, PA., JUNE 12, 1889.

THE ALASKA MISSION.—Friends of the missionaries at Carmel, Alaska, (Bro. Wolff) may be able to communicate with them if the letters reach San Francisco, care of the Alaska Commercial Company, by June 21, (allowing seven days for transit across the continent). It is also possible that letters to Bethel (Bro. Kilbuck) may be forwarded in like manner, by fishing vessel.

Education in Alaska.

Dr. Bushrod W. James, who recently returned from extensive travels in the northwest territory, speaking of the system and forms of education there, said:

"The establishment of American schools in Alaska began at Fort Wrangell under the charge of the Rev. Sheldon Jackson and Mrs. R. McFarland. There were twenty pupils in attendance, most of them being young female Indians, while Clah, an educated Indian, whose English name was Philip McKay, since deceased, was their teacher. Mrs. McFarland was placed in charge of the school, and soon became the equivalent of judge and jury, and the natives had such confidence in her that they freely submitted their cases of witchcraft, feuds, etc., to her for decision. She was a settler of disputes, medical adviser in case of sickness, superintendent of funerals, and the Indians accepted almost universally her decisions in all complaints brought before her, either of a political or a religious character. A number of the chiefs, even of the most influential tribes, placed themselves under her instruction as teacher, and even they submitted to all of her decisions and rulings.

"The schools at Sitka began under the charge of the Rev. John G. Brady, who reached that town on the 11th of April, 1878, and held the first school sessions soon after in a building called the Castle, which was formerly the abiding place of the nobility under the Russian rule. This large building of wood towers upon a low hill overlooks the town with probably more prominence than it did in the days of Baron Romanoff, who for a time held sway under the Russian Government over this vast province. Sitka, then the center of the Russian possessions, had for a time considerable commerce, while a goodly number of seminaries and schools were maintained by it in a flourishing condition.

"In 1837 steam was introduced, a steam engine having been brought with a cargo of rum and whisky from Boston, Mass., and about this period likewise a school was begun for the benefit of those in the employ of the Russian Fur Company, where they might, if they so desired, send their children to be educated. The Greek Church established an ecclesiastical school in 1841, and four

years afterward this was made a seminary, and here the Russian and English languages were taught, together with such branches as arithmetic, geography and trigonometry, navigation, book-keeping and history. The Russian schools, however, in 1867, with the occupation of the country by the United States, were discontinued. They were not intended for native Indians, and it was not until 1845 that the first institution was started for the education of those people.

THE SCHOOL FOR NATIVES.

"Brady's school began on April 17, 1874, with fifty Indians present, whom he found willing to be educated, and at once had them taught the English alphabet, and their brightness and progress in

learning to read was observed with surprise. They soon learned to read, after which it was a matter of directing the kind of reading they should engage in, and as far as I am able to ascertain, the books furnished them have been good and of an improving character, being kept under supervision of teachers who thus far belong to various church organizations. Section 13 of "An Act providing for the civil government of Alaska" shows the intention of the United States Government in behalf of these Indian tribes:

"That the Secretary of the Interior shall make needful and proper provision for the education of the children of a school age in the Territory of Alaska, without reference to race, until such time as permanent provision shall be made for the same, and the sum of \$20,000, or as much thereto as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for this purpose."

"Alaska has what is called a Territorial Board of Education, which usually meets at the office of Judge Dawson. The United States Commissioner of Education is the Hon. H. R. Dawson, and the Rev. Sheldon Jackson is the Secretary of the Board and General Superintendent of Schools in Alaska. Governor Swineford, of Alaska, is also a member of the Board. The estimated expenses of running the schools for the year ending June 1, 1887, were \$24,950. The Sitka and Wrangell schools opened their Fall and Winter sessions on September 5. On the 1st of July, 1886, United States Commissioner Hon. John Eaton authorized the establishment of schools under the control of the Moravian Mission at Bethel, on the Sitkine River, and at Nushagak, on the river of the same name; also, one at St. Michael or some other point on the Yukon River, to be under the control of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States.

UNDER CHURCH CONTROL.

"The established schools at Sitka and Wrangell are under the control of the Presbyterian Church, and I think those at Juneau and Haines are under similar rule. But of course all these denominations aim at the general as well as the moral education of the Indian inhabitants, and as far as I could learn, the last \$25,000 furnished by the United States Government has been equally and judiciously distributed regardless of any denominational preference. Schools are likewise established, I believe, at the following locations: Killisnoo, Kodiak, Unga, Klawack, Afognak and Howkan, but it must be remembered that these are not large towns, some of them being nothing but Indian stations. The report of the Board of Education, handed in at the meeting held August 24, 1887, stated that schools were urgently needed at Ounalaska, Norshevoi, Ayakhatalik, Cook's Inlet, Belkofsky, Wood Island, Spruce Island, Hoonah, Metlakahtla and Kagniak. The estimated expense, should schools be established at these places, would be \$9500. Other places that need schools, although not quite so greatly as those above, are: Karluk, Katmai, Orlove, Umnak, Skilak, Sushetuo, Atkre, Kluequan, Attoo, Akhick and Old Harbor. The mining camps of

LIST

OF PACKAGES AND BOXES FROM FRIENDS OF THE ALASKA MISSION SHIPPED BY THE COMMITTEE ON SUPPLIES TO BETHEL AND CARMEL, ALASKA.

Lititz congregation, one tierce assorted merchandise.
 Utica congregation, one box assorted merchandise.
 East Utica Mission, one box merchandise, one Singer sewing machine and outfit.
 New Westfield Indian Mission, Kansas, one box household supplies.
 From the Ladies of the First Church of Philadelphia, one box assorted merchandise.
 From the Ladies of the Second Church, Philadelphia, two packages.
 From the Society of Willing Workers, Bethania, N.C., one package.
 From the Ladies of the Riverside congregation, N.J., one package.
 From the Ladies of the Nazareth congregation, one barrel merchandise, one roll home-made carpet.
 From "Helping Hands Circle," German Moravian Church, New York City, one package of clothing.
 From the Coopersburg, Pa., Sunday-school, one box assorted merchandise.
 From Castleton Corners, S.I., one box supplies.
 From C. E. Kummer, Boston, one box clothing.
 From Philadelphia, one box for Katie Kilbuck.
 From Mrs. Harvey, Brooklyn, N.Y., one package salve.
 From Mrs. Thompson, Newbury, Pa., one package.
 From Mrs. E. Leibert, Nazareth, Pa., two packages.
 From C. Morbek, Northfield, Minn., 2 boxes healing salve.
 From Miss Carrie E. Grunert, Nazareth, Pa., two packages.
 From Richard Wolff, Newfoundland, Pa., one box merchandise.
 "Busy Workers," Bethlehem, Pa., packages of useful articles.
 South Bethlehem congregation, a lot of clothing made up.
 Sewing Society of Laurel Street Chapel, a lot of clothing made up.
 Ladies of the Bethlehem congregation, a lot of clothing made up.
 Fifty packages from Friends in Bethlehem.

SUMMARY

OF THE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE ALASKA MISSION DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR FROM AUGUST 1, 1888, TO AUGUST 1, 1889.

Receipts.

From collections and donations.....	\$2576 50
" United States Commissioner of Education	800 00
" The Society for Propagating the Gospel.	1318 96
" Credit balance from last year's accounts.	439 33
	\$5134 79

Expenditures.

For Bethel.....	\$2895 53
" Carmel.....	2159 15
" General expenses.....	42 66
" The Alaskan Grammar.....	37 45
	\$5134 79

A Card of Thanks.

The missionaries at Carmel express their heartfelt thanks to all the friends and lovers of the cause of Christ, who have so plentifully remembered them and the natives with many loving gifts, and clothing. It is very cheering and comforting to know that there are many busy hands, both old and young, who are doing all they can to help us to bring the blessed Gospel to the natives of Alaska, who are worthy of all we can do for them. The Lord bless our cheerful givers and workers.

In the name of the missionaries,

F. E. WOLFF.

Carmel, Alaska, August 16, 1889.

Douglas Island and Berner Bay and the fisheries of Tongas Narrows and Loring will require schools to be established at an early day, so the General Superintendent asked for an appropriation for the coming year of \$100,000 to do justice to the educational requirements of the country. Until the towns become larger—and some of them soon will grow into cities—it certainly is to the interest of the Government to educate the present residents of Alaska. When it is a State it will then be able to take care of itself in educational as well as in

its other affairs. Now, while it is simply a piece of property belonging to the United States, the National Government, it would seem, should take care of the educational interests of its native inhabitants.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

BETHLEHEM, PA., SEPTEMBER 25, 1889.

ALASKA.—We are happy to report that very full and satisfactory intelligence has just been received from our stations at Bethel and Carmel, and that the letters and reports will be published as early as possible.

NEWS FROM ALASKA.—By the early mail on Monday, September 23, letters arrived at Bethlehem, Pa., from our Mission Stations in Alaska. The official reports having been addressed to the late Bishop Reinke, we are able to present only Bro. Wolff's card of thanks, brief extracts from a private letter from Bro. Wolff to Bro. Jos. H. Traeger, and, through the kindness of Bro. F. W. Detteler, copious extracts from his sister's private journal.

Contributions for the Alaska Mission Received from August 1, 1888, to August 1, 1889.

Berea	\$ 10 00	New York, German..	15 46
Bethany.....	31 63	Northfield	15 00
Bethlehem.....	726 10	Oakland	67 92
Brooklyn	15 00	Palmyra.....	4 00
Canaan	41 46	Philadelphia, First..	32 21
Canal Dover.....	61 37	Philadelphia, Second	22 60
Chaska	8 75	Philadelphia, Third..	6 00
Ebenezer	5 00	Philadelphia, Fifth..	21 71
Easton	2 00	Port Washington	5 00
Elizabeth	3 00	Riverside	5 50
Emmaus	20 00	Sharon	39 13
Ephraim	10 00	South Bethlehem	6 45
Fort Howard.....	15 20	Sturgeon Bay	16 64
Freedom	10 00	Unionville	7 70
Fry's Valley.....	9 87	Utica	40 42
Gnadenhuetten.....	51 10	Watertown	57 60
Goshen	43 75	West Salem, English	9 36
Graecham	5 75	York	13 00
Greenbay	8 75	Newfairfield	11 25
Hope	70 90	Newwestfield	4 05
Hopedale	7 50	S. t. Croix, W I.....	23 00
Lake Mills.....	36 00	Barbadoes, W I.....	10 00
Laneaster	97 18	Rockfield	30 00
Lebanon	12 50	Ohio Miss. Society...	50 00
Lititz	203 33	Salem, N C.....	28 00
Milwaukee.....	8 00	Scattering and	
Nazareth	60 00	Anonymous	433 87
Castleton Corners....	10 83		
New York, English..	6 00		
			\$2576 50

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Extracts from the Journal of Sister Detterer.

Thursday, June 13.—At 4 o'clock the Mission-scow got here. Brother Kilbuck came on the vessel and was very glad to see us. There are from 40 to 50 natives on board, all clad in parkas and fur boots. I greeted one of them by saying "Schammai" (How do you do), and they understood me and returned the greeting. Mr. Sipary's little boy came along. We wanted Brother Kilbuck to guess who we were, but he could not, although he had seen Sister Bachman before. They had been at the warehouse 10 days already waiting for the *Pearl*. Brother Kilbuck says that his wife is quite well again. On the ship they feed the natives on crackers and tea. We will not take leave till to-morrow. Brother Kilbuck, Mr. Lind, two other white men and Mr. Sipary's boy remained for supper. I don't know whose attention was taken up most; the Eskimos admired my spectacles, and I looked at them and their costume. While we were at the supper table one of the natives looked down the stairway watching us. This evening the natives performed a war dance, in which there were two leaders, each having a broom in his hand, and while dancing they sang a very monotonous tune. One of the men came up to me and pointed to his torn garment. At first we thought he had only one arm as he had the other one drawn up in his sleeve and his hair looked quite matted.

Friday, 14.—At 8 A.M. we went on the scow and sailed till 9 o'clock and then we had to wait as the wind was contrary. I wish you could take a peep into the scow; it is loaded with flour bags and on top of these we have our baggage, on which we sit, lie down, etc. On this trip John and I were not at all sea-sick, but the others were, also the two natives. It is very stormy. We have adopted the Oriental style of taking meals, some of us sit on the flour-bags, and others, the convalescents, prefer to take it in a reclining position. As we have not yet enough tin cups, we make use of tin cans, with which we drink water, or tea when we can manage to have that luxury. We have no arrangement on the scow for boiling it and must wait till we get to land. We opened some cans and had canned fruit and crackers for breakfast.

Saturday, 15.—To-day rainy weather but good wind. We set sail at 5 A.M. We got along fast, till 3 P.M., when we were stuck and must wait till the tide comes in. Later we found that we were in a green meadow. We are about 50 miles up the river. Sister Bachman is still sick. We had tea for supper. Brother Weber started a fire in the ground, put on the "chynick" (tea-pot) and boiled the tea there.

Sunday, 16.—This morning we fried ham by holding it over the fire with a pointed stick, also had crackers and cheese for breakfast and prunes for dessert. As it was so pleasant we took our meal on deck. We sat out a long time singing

Gospel Hymns. At 12.30 the tide came in and we again got off. One of the natives came to the door of the scow and wanted something, which we could not understand, so I handed him the tea-pot first at which he shook his head, then 2 pretzels and a lemon. Brother Kilbuck came next and we found out that it was a bag he wanted.

Monday, 17.—At 5 A.M. the scow got stuck on a mud flat. This morning we had crackers, cheese and canned oysters for breakfast, as we did not have spoons, we had to eat them with our knives and drink the juice. Here the ground was not quite clear of water, so we could not boil the tea outside, but had to get up a new arrangement. We took a tin can and inserted a nail in the bottom of it, on which the candle was placed and so we managed to get tea. Next we went on top of the scow. We again set sail at 1 P.M. and are now near "Lohmvigamute" at 2 30 P.M. This is the third village from Bethel, a distance of about 20 miles. We heard some land birds singing. This afternoon a native came up in his boat and traded 47 eggs for a needle and two pieces of tobacco. We again had our meal of crackers and canned cherries on the deck of the scow; we generally have it there as it is more pleasant than inside. At 4 P.M. we passed Nahpachyachagamute, 18 miles from the Mission. It is so nice and green all along the banks and we see willows and water-birch, some quite large. Also saw some yellow flowers, and yellow birds and swallows. We meet a good many natives who are out fishing. This afternoon we sang Gospel Hymns," also "From Greenlands icy mountains." We were on deck most of the time to-day. At 7.30 P.M. we anchored. Got a salmon from a native. This fish weighed about 25 pounds and is one of the smallest. Brother Weber went on shore in the natives' boat to cook the fish and eggs. Three natives in their birch canoes are stopping at the scow and Brother Kilbuck is conversing with them, they are quite talkative. The younger ones always let the oldest one do the talking. The mosquitoes are getting to be more plentiful, but so far I have not been troubled much by them. The natives wear water-proof coats of fish skin and also of the entrails of seals. It is raining and we saw a rainbow.

Tuesday 18.—This morning Sister Bachman and I got out on the scow at 3 A.M., when the

moon and the sun were to be seen. The native boy on the scow is called "Dudatchak"; he is one of the Mission boys and his christian name is Albert. Another boy had been taken along from the warehouse for help, but found out later that he could use only one arm, as the other is paralyzed. We did not get to stop at the warehouse but made right for home. The native boys are getting to be more talkative as we are nearing the Mission. We saw a native fishing with a net made of willow bark. This morning we saw some women rowing past in a women's canoe. To-day it is quite pleasant; the sun feels hot, I think nearly as hot as in New Jersey. It is hotter here than it gets at Ounalaska. We are

on the deck of the scow and I am now studying some more Eskimo words. We are still stopping as the wind is not favorable. At 3.15 P.M. we again started and at 4 P.M. passed "Aposchiachaniute. Here we saw some pine, spruce and cotton-wood trees. We hear thunder in the distance and will probably have a shower. At the Mission they must have seen us as we heard them discharge the gun three times. We are about 2 miles from Bethel and here it was where Brother Torgersen was drowned. Brother Kilbuck got into a boat with a native and is going ahead, to see about boats to take us up. They now have 22 church members. At 7.30 P.M. a bidarrah and a bidarka (the latter is a skin boat with three holes) came to the scow, and in them were the natives Procopi and Ipersnick. They greeted us by saying "Schamai" and shaking hands. At 8 P.M. we left the scow. Sister Bachman and I got into the center hole of the bidarka, Ipersnick in the front and paddled and Brother Weber in the stern. John got in the bidarrah with two native boys. We were so glad to get at our journey's end at last, and indeed, I feel quite at home, much more so than I had expected. We reached the Mission at 8.30 P.M. Sister Kilbuck and the children were on the shore awaiting us, and I can not describe how happy she was to see us. On greeting us she said, "thank the Lord, I am so glad, so glad, it is more than I could hope for." After a good meal and prayers we retired and had a good night's rest. Some time before we reached the Mission, some women that had passed the scow in the forenoon, came to Sister Kilbuck and told her that they had seen two white women and a white man (John). Five miners pitched their tents here and as two of them were anxious to get work, Brother Kilbuck engaged them to help finish the school-house and also to build a store-house.

Wednesday 19.—We are not quite settled yet, as our trunks etc. are still on the scow. We all take meals at Kilbuck's, where Sister Bachman, Johnny and I are also staying. Sister Kilbuck told us that several weeks ago as she was going to clean house, Mrs. Lind and about five native women came and offered to help her. She did not want Mrs. Lind to do it; but the latter insisted as she wanted to encourage the other women. This morning little Katie came into the house and gave me some flowers which she had gathered. I played on the melodeon and we sang several hymns. After dinner Sister Bachman, John, Katie and I took a walk and called on Mrs. Lind, where we had a sort of Quaker-meeting, and we knew only about three words of which we could make use, Mrs. Lind took us into her parlor which looked quite neat and contained chairs. The natives, however, will not make use of them, but they sat on the floor and admired us. They make a great fuss over Katie and she can talk their language quite readily.

Thursday 20.—This morning I accompanied Sister Kilbuck to a barabarra, where she went to bandage a sick woman. When we got back Sister

Bachman and I ironed. I did up 30 collars, 6 pair of cuffs. After dinner I played and we sang some hymns, Brother Kilbuck gave some natives medicine, John wanted to go bathing with the boys, but when he was about to get into the water, he found it too cold. This evening Brother Kilbuck showed us some curiosities. Brother Kilbuck bought 93 duck-eggs for 3 needles and 2 pieces of tobacco.

Friday 21.—To-day, the first day of summer, we have very warm weather, yesterday we had 63 degrees. This morning I sewed a curtain on the

"New Home" machine. This morning Katie told her mother that Sister Bachman is the baby's aunt and that I am hers. As the boats which are to bring our things from the "Pearl" have not yet arrived, Brother Weber will go to see what detains them.

Saturday 22.—This morning I did some cleaning in the rooms and made the beds, and after that I fried doughnuts. In the afternoon practiced on the melodeon and did some mending. As we were at the dinner-table Brother Weber came back and said that the 3 bidarkas, Mr. Sipary's, Mr. Lind's and the Mission's were coming. The first bidarka got here at 9.40 and the others soon followed. So we can now get our trunks. The other things will come with the next load. When Katie saw Mr. Sipary's calves, she said they were rabbits.

Sunday 23.—To-day pleasant weather, in the afternoon we had services in the school-house, which is nearly finished, there were 38 persons present including us, and three miners, two of whom are helping to finish the school-house. I played the tunes. The natives were all very attentive and I was surprised to hear how fluently Brother Kilbuck speaks the language; the interpreter had to make only two corrections. After service we went to see Brother Torgersen's grave and on the way there I gathered some flowers. In the evening Mr. Lind called and after he had departed we had song service.

Monday 24.—To-day fine. This morning I kneaded bread and this afternoon we baked 17 loaves. I sowed some flower seeds. Later Mr. Sipary called. One of the boys, Augustus, seems to have talent for music, as he plays some hymns on the mouth-organ. Unloaded the scow. Sister Bachman sowed vegetable seeds and planted onions and when we came out later we found that Katie had pulled them up. Got some native curiosities to-day and unpacked my trunk.

Tuesday 25.—This morning Sister Bachman and I washed, Brother Weber worked the wash-machine. In the afternoon I scrubbed the kitchen floor. About 2 P.M. Brother Weber went away in the scow to get the last load of things from the warehouse. This afternoon Brother and Sister Kilbuck and Sister Bachman went to Linds. I was in the room at my trunk, when some of the natives came in. Amanda the kitchen girl admired a pin cushion and when I gave it to her she was delighted. Then I went into the kitchen to

iron my dress, and the natives followed and one of them Andrew wanted to show his knowledge, so he counted up to 200 and then skipped to 900. Then he taught one of the other boys, also said the alphabet and spelled some words. All this he picked up from the school-boys, as he himself never attended school. Then we sang hymns, one verse of "When he cometh" and "Just as I am," but when I next looked up I saw a woman pick an insect of another old woman's head and put it into the old woman's mouth. I said "aschituk"—bad and then they stopped doing it, Andrew tries to put on style. This afternoon he came in and asked me for a needle and thread. I gave it to him and in a short time he returned and showed me a necktie which Brother Kilbuck had given him and which he had mended and intended to wear. There are three tents in which the natives live in summer-time, in winter the two families move into the barabarra and the school boys into the school-house. Here we go to bed when it is still light, that is at 11 o'clock. At present there are two dwelling-houses here, aside of each other, in one of which Kilbucks live, in the other Brother Weber, along side of the latter stands the school-house which is not entirely finished and on the other side of Kilbuck's house is the fish house, (formerly a dwelling house) and the store-room which Procopi and two miners are building. All these buildings face the river. The dogs, five in number, are not at all cross but just as tame as dogs in the States, 14 dogs died and some were sick at the time of our arrival. I always heard Alaska spoken of as such a rainy country, since my stay here we have not had any rain and quite warm weather, 62 degrees, they have more rain at Ounalaska than here. I feel quite contented and at home here, but of course I often think of the dear ones at home.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Extracts from a Private Letter from Bro. F. E. Wolff, dated Carmel, Nushagak River, Alaska, August 12, 1889.

We are very glad for the bell which was sent us. It is just right, and it does our hearts good to hear it ring on Sundays. We have had our school-house crowded with fishermen on several Sunday evenings. They come whenever they are at liberty to do so, but it is too sad that they are required to work on Sunday. It is a pleasure to hear how heartily they join in the singing and how attentive they are to what is said, and we believe that the Lord has chosen this place to sow good seed in the hearts of these men, some of whom are poor and very wretched, and who do not elsewhere get to hear the Gospel.

We have nursed a sick fisherman at the house for nearly five weeks. Having taken a severe cold he was in a very bad condition when he came to us. I gave him medical treatment and we are happy to say that he is almost well. His comrades feared that he would die, for down at the cannery there was no one to look after him and to attend to his wants. We put him in our school-

house, which was the only room we could spare. It made quite an impression on his comrades when they came to service on Sunday evenings, to see one of their number sick in bed and to hear our prayers offered for his recovery.

To-day I gave medicines to six persons, five of them being natives. They constantly come to us with their ailments and want us to keep them. I am making good use of Dr. Lochman's Witch Hazel, which is very good for some complaints.

We were quite happy this Spring when we learned that a photographic outfit had been sent us. I know nothing about photography and have not had time to study up on the subject this Summer, but will do so as soon as I get time, and hope to send some plates next year, including one "of the Carmel fleet," which consist of a row-boat or skiff which we built and a boat we bought from one of the canneries. This latter boat is twenty-two feet long, with round bottom, sharp at both ends, and fitted with mast and sail, and will carry nearly two tons. We paid \$55 for it, after one season's use. It cost at San Francisco about \$100.

We put up several extra cases of salmon this Summer, and have packed one for the Board of Directors. The only cost to you will be the freight from San Francisco. We also send a walrus tooth for the Society's collection in the Archives and one to the Theological Seminary.

Two weeks ago our dear Ray had an accident. He was playing at hide-and-seek with other children, and while running fell into a hole which was overgrown with grass. We feared that he had broken his arm, but on closer examination found that the main bone of the arm was sound, but that a smaller bone, near the elbow, was either broken or put out of joint. It was very painful to the poor little fellow. Everything seeming to be in peace again I made an angular splint and bandaged the arm to it. So far he is doing right well, and we hope and pray that in a few weeks all may be well again.

Bro. Schoechert said that he would write to you and will no doubt tell you how he likes Alaska life by this time. He is a ready and willing worker, and a great help to me.

Feeling sure that you will not cease to pray for us and our work, I remain your affectionate friend and brother,

F. E. WOLFF.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., OCTOBER 2, 1889.

OUR WORK IN ALASKA.

In the present number considerable space is devoted to the work of our Church at Bethel, on the Kuskokwim, Alaska, while next week our station at Carmel, on the Nushagak, will have a hearing. We have little doubt as to the thoughts which

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will thrill throughout our Church when Bro. Kilbuck's letters are read and his proposed plans are pondered. Some things that we feel moved to say, we will refrain from saying; because we believe that more lasting good will be effected if those same thoughts spring up spontaneously in the hearts of the faithful in Christ Jesus, without editorial suggestion. To "fire the popular heart" to good deeds and thoughts, is indeed a noble work; but this is a case when far more effective work will be done if the heart of the Church is fired by the Holy Ghost, speaking through His apostle to the Eskimo.

We speak, therefore, only of a matter which seems to be trivial, and which is yet thoroughly characteristic of this part of our work in Alaska, namely, Bro. Kilbuck's satisfaction with the supplies sent to him by the Board of Directors of the Society for Propagating the Gospel among the Heathen. Charged with the care of the temporal wants and needs of the missionaries, the Board from the outset determined that they should not lack any good thing, if it were possible for the Board to supply it, and that proper provision should be made against scurvy and other forms of sickness and disease to which persons who live in the high latitudes are peculiarly subject, by sending many things which might be considered luxuries among us, where a change of diet can easily be made, but which become necessities of life and health in the far North, where the diet is rather restricted. Consequently, not only has, whatever any of the missionaries at either station placed among the requisitions, been duly ordered to be sent to them—and this course will continue to be followed unless needless extravagance should be developed—but, in the case of Bethel, the Board has deemed it right, after full consideration of the facts of the case, not only occasionally to increase the quantities asked for but also to add to the variety of the diet, for the good of the missionaries and, therefore, for the good of the work of evangelization. It was not an overestimate on Bro. Kilbuck's part, nor an error or accident on the part of the shipping agents at San Francisco, but a deliberate and purposeful act on the part of the Board, which results in Bro. Kilbuck's stating that they are

more than satisfied with what has been sent them. And the Board of Directors, we know, feel assured that the Church, while it will be prompt to rebuke extravagance, will heartily approve of the determination to provide liberally, though not extravagantly, for our missionaries in Alaska.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

I. Letters from Brother J. H. Kilbuck.

BETHEL, July 19, 1889.

Your favors of last August and of April 25, 1889, were received by me, the one at the mouth of the river, and the other at home from Sister Bachman.

It seems vain to try to express our joy, and gratitude for the great blessing our dear brethren at home have sent us in Sisters Bachman and Dettner. By this act our Province has given us new life, new powers and that without going away from our work. How the Lord loves this work, is manifested by His touching the hearts of the people at home concerning the work that is precious to Him, so that great sacrifices have been made to give us relief. How I wish I could shake hands with our brethren, and be able to tell them of the great joy they have given us. But our dear Lord will richly repay them far more than any words of mine or any other man's. He will cause His voice to be heard as the voice of many waters, speaking His own peace and blessing.

The Lord has also done more than sent us help, for He has again shown that He hears the prayers of His children, and has restored Sister Kilbuck to health, and she is now like her old self. We all have been and continue to be in excellent health.

Now we will turn our attention to business matters.

1. *About the School.*—This Spring I sent duplicate monthly reports of the school, one copy to you and the other to the Commissioner of Education. The reason for my not sending the latter to Dr. Jackson was this: Last Fall the Rev. Mr. Parker stated that Dr. Jackson was removed

from office, saying that he got this from the Doctor himself. I thought it strange that I received no notice of this, but I considered the source reliable; hence I sent the reports direct to Washington. This Spring also, or rather per Lord Lonsdale, I sent a requisition for schoolbooks to the Governor at Sitka, hoping that I could get them this Spring; But no attention was paid to it, for I have not yet received them.

As to the number of scholars, for the coming year, I can not state anything positive as yet. When we open, there will be about as many as our average attendance last year. The prospects for an increase is good, but the food supply is somewhat short. I have on hand about 1500 fish,

(dried) and several barrels of salted fish. In a few days Brother Weber will start up the river, to buy fish and gather logs. I also will take the sailing boat and go down the river, to buy fish and to get scholars. Hitherto I have not been very successful in getting scholars from below, but as there is a prospect of a cannery or two being established at the mouth of the river next Spring, I hope to be able to secure quite a number of bright boys, by holding up the advantage they will have in securing work if they know a little English.

It is gratifying to see how well the plan of educating likely young men has been received, not only by the two boards, but also by the Church at large. I will do all I can in the selection of boys who will prove capable mentally, and physically for this venture. I recognize the necessity of exercising great caution in this matter, for I have seen the harm that an injudicious selection causes. I have had my eyes on two boys for some time. Morally, they are far above their countrymen, owing probably to the fact, that they have grown up under our care. Mentally, they are not brilliant, but they have perseverance, and good common "horse" sense. Physically, as far as I can see, they are "as sound as a dollar." Their ages, at least of one, may be a drawback. Augustus is about 17 years and David 14 years old. Sister Detteler is to give Augustus music lessons during the coming Winter. Both boys elicited voluntary commendations for integrity from all who have come in contact with them.

2. *Building.*—This part of our work makes the slowest progress. This Spring, when I returned from the Warehouse, I found two miners waiting for me, to get work. I hired them, for one month, at \$50.00 each. They have put up one building, the logs of which were ready hewed. The building is 12x16. It is finished, and our goods are all safely stored in it. Besides they have ripped out quite a few hundred feet of No. 1 lumber. One of the men is a good carpenter and I have learned a good deal about the use of tools from him. I am sorry to lose both men, but I have not the material at hand to keep them busy all Summer. I offered them \$1.25 per log for building logs, hewed and delivered, 24 feet long at least. They did not think they could make money at this, so they would not accept. I however cannot offer more; so that ends the matter.

Now that we have companions for Sister Kilbuck, we probably will be able to do more building. I am anxious to put up a large building just for the school. Whenever I can do that, we will have two dwelling houses, a school-house and a chapel. Besides, I am still anxious to put up chapels at different points on the river. Building away from home, will, however, only be practicable, when we have another Brother to help us. This leads me to the third point.

3. *Do we Want More Help?*—Our work at present does not require any larger force than we now have. It is evident, however, that the time

is rapidly drawing near when we must have more workers. This station can be made headquarters for missionary work on this river, that is, if the work is to be carried on according to the following plan:—Establish preaching stations, up and down the river, which can be reached easily from the home station; Also over the tundra. At these preaching stations, place our educated Eskimo men, as teachers. Place three brethren at the home station, so that one can be among the people all the time, and the second can keep services near at home, at regular times appointed. There

will then be one at home to keep the services and look after home work.

As I say, for the present our force as it is, is sufficient; but later, say in two years, there should be another married couple. The force then should consist of two and if possible three sisters, (one being single), two married brethren and one single brother.

By this plan we think that we can have the command of this river, within 75 miles around us, without a separate independent station—and at less cost. I will speak later on, of another plan we have of extending the work.

4. *Supplies.*—Were received in good shape, and we are entirely satisfied with the amount and the quality. We failed to receive only one small box of chocolate, which however is immaterial, in as much as we have a sufficient amount on hand to last us the year. The fresh vegetables added, were very acceptable. The case of onions and carrots, however, did not keep, and the few messes we got, were consequently very costly. From the requisition forwarded with this mail you will see we have omitted these articles. The stores were far superior to what I had in my mind when I ordered them.

5. Now I will briefly mention a plan that I am sure is for our Master, who has owned this work at Bethel so signally, and Who has stirred the hearts of our people at home, and has thus caused to arise an earnest desire to do something towards winning souls in Alaska for the kingdom of God.—The Lord has put it into our hearts, to make the following suggestion to our brethren:—*Start a Mission station at Togiak Bay.*

Why? For the following reasons:

- The Togiak valley, is a field as distinct, as either Nushagak or Bethel. This field can not be reached easily from either of the two stations. A station at the mouth of the Togiak river will command its entire length, and will be able to reach natives, in number next to those on this river.
- By placing a mission station at Togiak Bay, the gap that is now between Nushagak and Bethel will be closed up, and we will thus take possession of a territory rich in souls. Furthermore, working hand in hand, each station will become a support to the others, and together as a phalanx they can storm the interior. Continuing the military figure, it is of the utmost importance to the success of the work, that one general should com-

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mand the forces between here and Nushagak, under our great Captain. The manual of arms, and the marching tactics will then be the same; hence there will be no confusion.

- c. A school can readily be gathered together. For in the village of Togiak there are 50 children of school age. The people there recognize the importance of educating their children, but are unwilling to send either to Nushagak or Bethel, because it is too far from their homes.
- d. A vessel comes right into the bay, and the goods are landed by her boats, as at Nushagak.

The above reasons are all in favor of a missionary enterprise at Togiak.

Now I will state its *disadvantages*.

a. Chief and foremost, is the lack of building material, and fuel. Building, however, will not cost any more than in the East, even if the lumber is shipped from San Francisco. I think that stone houses could be put up, as the mountains that come down to the water's edge are principally composed of rocks. Whether these stones can be used for building or not, I do not know, but it will be worth while to investigate the matter. As to fuel, there is an abundance of cotton-wood timber a short distance up the river, which can be cut and dried. This timber is eight and ten inches in diameter. Besides, I think there must be coal in the interior, as I understand there are traces of coal found on the rivers that head on the mountains that divide the Togiak valley from the Kuskokwim.

b. The other difficulty, is one that Nushagak has to contend with, the opposition of the Greek Church. It is, however, too far removed from that station, for this opposition to prevent a rapid progress of evangelistic work.

These two are the only disadvantages that I know of. I have endeavored to give you a fair idea of this new plan for the extension of the Church's activity.

Now, you probably would like to hear how we think a part of the money for this new enterprise can be raised. We have received in the past many favors from friends, and requests to state what would add to our comfort, and how they would then try to send it. Up to this time we have never been able to tell these kind friends in what way they could help us as far as personal comfort was concerned, because we are already liberally provided for. Now, however, we can point to this Togiak enterprise; for, by establishing a station there, our friends' gifts will help us far more in our work, than direct presents to us.

It is not that we do not appreciate or prize our gifts, that we make the above suggestion; on the contrary we value them too much to use them selfishly, but would rather put them where they will ripen into fruit, meat for the Master's kingdom. We are now all well provided with clothing from two years to four, and with the requisition that we send down every year, our friends

need not worry but that we have an abundance of every thing.

Moreover, now that our Church is thoroughly awakened to her high calling, and particularly as regards the work in Alaska, it would be well to call attention to this new enterprise, and thus open a new channel for Christian activity. The three stations will not be too much for our awakened brethren at home. For from my place of observation, I for one, am as certain, as if the Province had said it to me, that there is a mighty desire in the hearts of the people to do something for the Eskimo of Alaska. I feel that this desire is too great to be confined to the two stations now already established. Therefore let the entire work of winning souls from here to Nushagak be in the hands of our people. The field is by no means barren, neither is it too large nor too small.

If it is at all possible I will visit the Togiak valley during this coming year, so that I can give you more certain data, to work upon. This step I will now take, without word from you, but I can not hear from you until next year, and so the field should be thoroughly viewed as soon as possible in order to work it in the near future, therefore, I will take the liberty of acting without orders, trusting to your leniency should you disapprove of the step.

I have but few more points to touch upon. In the first place we would heartily thank you, dear brethren, and through you, the Church for the extra help we received this Spring. When we shall cease to rejoice over this blessing I do not know, but it will not be to-morrow or the day after. Our hearts sing one continuous song of thanksgiving, for this aid has been the means of adding not only strength but new life to the entire party. The future prospect looks sunny, and inviting, now that we have an ample force, and companionship. May the Lord bless our dear brethren at home abundantly for their noble efforts for the support and extension of the work of winning souls for Christ. That their prayers avail much with the Lord is proved again, by the recovery of Sister Kilbuck to health, and we would therefore strongly urge them to continue their intercessory prayers in our behalf and in behalf of the Mission.

That this work lies very near to the hearts of the brethren, I feel certain of. For this reason: There seems to be an invisible electrical connection between you and us. For whenever the dear Lord touches your end of the line, we feel it here almost immediately, and I am sure that the reverse is also true. It was not so much the sight of the dear sisters who came to us, nor yet the words in various letters, that convinced us of your deep and earnest desire to promote the work in Alaska, but because we felt the shock when the Lord opened the switch, and turned the electric current of your love upon the line that connects your hearts and ours. God grant that this circuit will never be broken! Help us, dear brethren, to be ever faithful to our trust, and we will then be able to retain the favor of God, and your unhesitating support.

The work still goes on, and during this Summer we have had very good attendances at our Sunday services. The organ is an attraction, and thus many come who otherwise would not care to do so. There is still a deep interest, as their interested countenances indicate, whenever I tell them the "good news." Our members are now anxious for the time, when translations of some of our hymns and portions of Scripture and litany into their language can be made, as they desire to take part in the services.

Since my return from the vessel, I have married one couple, and baptized one child, and buried one child, the son of Procopi and wife. This little boy was baptized Hans, last Winter. I have received one application for adult baptism, but I have not been able to give full instructions to the applicant, and besides I think the application was made without due consideration, nor was it prompted by an earnest desire to be a child of God. I hope that the Sunday-school lesson illustrations will continue to be sent to us by kind friends, for they are a great help to us.

The building of chapels is still one of our fixed purposes, and as soon as possible we will push it forward.

Through you, we would tender our sincere thanks to the various societies and individuals of the congregations at Bethlehem, Nazareth, Utica, First Philadelphia and Second Philadelphia, Riverside, Castleton Corners, New York German, Salem, and New Westfield Mission, Kansas, and also to Brother L. T. Morbek. The gifts and boxes from these churches have gladdened our hearts and lightened our burdens. Words cannot repay the busy hands, the thoughtful minds, and the sympathizing hearts of the dear brethren, but the Lord will richly reward them for their noble work, nobly done. These tokens of interest and affection do a grand work. They warm up our hearts, strengthen our arms for the long Winter's work.

Be assured that we will endeavor to repay all this by applying ourselves, more than ever to the cause dear to our brethren.

Enclosed in this letter you well find our requisition for another year's supply. We hope it will meet with your approval. We have sent for just what we needed, for ourselves and the work, and as always, we have been careful not to make unnecessary demands.

Now, I would call your attention to the probable erection of a fishing station in Good News Bay, next Spring. Mr. Sipary and Mr. Lind are interested in this, and will be backed by the Alaska Commercial Co., in this enterprise. This Summer they sent an experienced fisherman to the Bay to watch and report on the run of fish. If his report is favorable, there is no doubt but that the cannery will be established. Mr. Sipary said to me, that if the cannery is established, he will run a boat to this station, to bring their supplies, and take down their furs. I asked him if he thought he could bring our goods too, and he said he could, and would be willing to do so. Such an arrangement would be very great help to

us, in the matter of having more time for our Summer's work. As it is now, we lose nearly the whole month of June, in getting our supplies up from the mouth of the river. If the cannery is to be established next Spring, Mr. Lind will go down to San Francisco during the Winter, via Lord Lonsdale's route, in order to get the necessary material and force for the cannery. From this you will see that there is a likelihood of your hearing from us, before our yearly mail. If you think it practicable and advisable to send our goods per Sipary's boat from Good News Bay to Bethel, I think you could make arrangements with the Alaska Commercial Co. to that effect. I think it would be to the interest of the Mission if such an arrangement can be made.

Now in conclusion, allow me to thank you for your hearty endorsement of the work at Bethel. It is a great thing to know that one's course meets with the approbation of his superiors, but it is also dangerous to know that one is very popular. One and all of us have been and are anxious to make this work the joy of the American Province, and of the entire Brethren's Church, and now by the grace of God and of our Lord Jesus Christ, after years of anxious doubt and uncertainty,

we are made to feel that this Mission is established in the hearts of the entire Church, and particularly in the hearts of the brethren of the American Province. By the help of God our Lord, we have triumphed over difficulties in the past, and God being still our helper, we propose to go on to new conflicts and new victories. And do you, dear brethren, continue to support us by your prayers, that we fail not, and to God shall be all the glory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

JOHN H. KILBUCK.

II.—A Letter from Bro. Ernst L. Weber.

BETHEL, ALASKA, July 13, 1889.

DEAR BRO. REINKE:—Your kind and very welcome letter dated April 23, has been received. It did me much good to hear from you, though I had only met you once, on that memorable occasion, a little more than a year ago, when you ordained me. Still I have always felt that I had a claim on your sympathy and prayers. And I am sure that these prayers have been the means of keeping me from yielding to many a temptation and from falling into many a sin. I beg you to continue your intercessions.

We are all well, and thankful for the great blessing of health. On June 13 we received our long-looked for mail, and words cannot express the pleasure it gave us to see that Sister Bachman and Sister Detterer had come to help us. It did us much good to receive such long letters from dear friends at home and to note the way in which they expressed their love and sympathy, both in word and by gifts. We would extend heartfelt thanks for their kindness and for the encouragement they have given us.

For my part, I can say that I found the last year to be a pleasant one, although at times we had lonely hours. But it is always a great satisfaction

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to know that we are working for our blessed Master. I do not believe that there is any work that brings the same satisfaction and peace of mind as to feel that we are working for the Saviour, no matter how humble that service may be.

Spring and Summer, thus far, have been pleasant, though quite cool, as is usually the case in Alaska. We have not had any really warm days so far, but the weather has been comfortable and the mosquitoes have not been as troublesome as last year.

In June we had some stormy weather, and it was only with the greatest difficulty that we went to the vessel and got back. It was surely a very rough and trying reception for the new mission party.

I tried to have a garden this year, and sowed seeds both here at the mission-house and also on the large island in the river. Everything looks well, but it remains to be seen how large the vegetables will become in our short Alaskan Summer. I planted potatoes but during June it was so cold that most of them rotted. Those that grew are looking very well, and so do the lettuce, radishes and peas.

The whole month of June was consumed in getting our goods home. We started on June 1, but the vessel did not arrive until June 13. We did not get back to Bethel until June 18, after which two natives and I went to the warehouse for another load.

As soon as the fishing season is over I will go up the river for building logs and firewood, and to trade with the natives for dried fish. We have heard of a place about 250 miles up the river, where we think we can get some good logs.

Asking an interest in your prayers that the Lord may bless our labors here among the people, I remain

Affectionately Your Brother,
ERNST L. WEBER.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Extracts from the Journal of Sister Detteler.

I suppose you would like to know some more about the house in which we live: It has a good sized bed room and next to that a sitting-room, then a little entry leading to the kitchen, also shed, a garret.

Wednesday 25.—To-day pleasant weather. Our duty to-day was to make beds, clean the rooms and do our ironing. When all was done Sister Bachman and I took a walk to the lake near by and on our way back gathered some flowers. We had company for supper, Mr. Sipary and Mr. Lind. At present there are 13 scholars here; the others have not yet returned; some went home and some went hunting squirrels; in all there are about 30 scholars.

Thursday 26.—This morning made the beds and swept the rooms, then did some sewing for Mrs. Kilbuck. At 3 P. M. Brother Kilbuck, Sister Bachman and I went down to the river to see Mr. Sipary pass by on his way home. In the evening I played hymns and later we and the boys sang them.

Friday 27.—After breakfast Sister Bachman and I went to Mr. Linds and got in bleached muslin for covering the ceiling of a room. In the afternoon I sewed for Sister Kilbuck. Mr. Lind came and stayed to supper. One of the principal articles of trade is tobacco; men and women chew it. We have not had any rain since we are here.

Saturday 28.—Brother Kilbuck is busy fixing up the house in which Brother Weber lives, as he, Brother Kilbuck and Johnny will also live there this Winter. We will follow the old Moravian custom here, that is, have a Brethren's and a Sister's house. I do wish you could see one old woman; she is a visitor and is always lounging and sitting in the door-way with her baby. At present the baby is so cross that she must carry it around on her back; she is the worst looking native that I have yet seen. Brother Kilbuck says if you send mail from home, the 1st, or 3d of July, I will get it in Fall. This afternoon we all went to Mr. Linds to take a bath in his bath-house. We stayed there for some time and then Sister Kilbuck, Sister Bachman and I went to a barrabarah, in which there were women chewing and stretching squirrel skins; that is their way of curing them. Next we went to another barrabarah and then returned to Mr. Lind's house and were weighed; I weighed 110 pounds. We went and returned in the boat, and on the way back I paddled.

Sunday 30.—After breakfast, when Brother Kilbuck had finished reading the Scripture lesson and looked out of the window, he saw the scow returning. So we all ran down to the beach. They had been away five days and this is the second fastest trip they have made. Mr. Lind came here in the forenoon and remained for dinner. In the afternoon at 2 o'clock we had service. I played the melodeon and later we practiced singing with the children, while in the evening we had singing-school. Brother Kilbuck sang bass and Brother Weber tenor, Sister Bachman alto, and Sister Kilbuck soprano. So you see we had quite a choir.

Monday, July 1.—To-day we unpacked the things; it was a busy day and we enjoyed it. The natives are so glad that they now have new clothing.

Tuesday 2.—To-day is wash-day; we have nice grass and it is splendid for bleaching the wash. To-day we were still busy storing away the things which came in the boxes. Had a pleasant day. This afternoon when Brother Weber was digging he found ice at a depth of 1½ feet.

Thursday 4.—This morning we had cloudy weather. I sewed for Sister Kilbuck. In the afternoon the weather became pleasant. We got 118 king salmon. Brother Weber and Sister Bachman went to the garden on the island and planted turnips; they have some lettuce, onions, and radishes there, also had planted potatoes, but they rotted. Sister Bachman said the mosquitoes were very troublesome then. John is enjoying himself with the boys and I heard them shoot several times. In the evening we practiced singing.

Friday 5.—This morning I scrubbed the kitchen floor. In the afternoon sewed on the machine; some native women gathered at the window and watched me. After a while one old woman came into the room and began chatting to me, but I could understand only two words. Sister Bachman and I went out to where the natives were preparing the salmon to hang them up to dry. Most of the natives were new-comers and wanted to see us. Later in the afternoon I took a walk with the children and got some flowers. Brother Kilbuck is papering the other house and Sister Bachman helped.

Saturday 6.—This morning I helped in the kitchen and in the afternoon we went to Mr. Linds, we rode in the bidarka, and took a bath in the bath-house. Then walked home. While there we saw several bags filled with seal oil; the bags were simply the skins of the animals turned inside out. Towards evening some natives from the mouth of the river came and from them I procured several articles to send you. They wanted either needles, thimbles, or buttons in exchange. The season for king salmon is nearly over and now is the time for dog salmon, salmon trout and silver fish. At the Mission they have

put in quite a lot of fish, salmon and smelts; the salmon are hung up to dry and after that they are smoked; the smelts are for the natives during the Winter and are also fed to the dogs.

Sunday 7.—To-day it is rainy. This forenoon we had service at which Mr. Lind and the two miners were present and also a goodly number of natives. In the afternoon we practiced some hymns and at 3 P. M. had singing-school, principally for the natives. Brother Kilbuck told the boys to read the first stanza several times and next to sing it with accompaniment. Then they sang without accompaniment until we thought they knew the hymns.

Monday 8.—This morning at the breakfast-table Brother Kilbuck told us what the natives think of the eclipse of the moon. They think that the moon dies and if any one sleeps when there is an eclipse he will also die immediately. There are a number of strange natives here and as I was taking in the wash, one woman asked me if she might have the scrubbing-cloth which was lying on the ground. Every thing seems to possess value in their eyes. One woman brought some long grass, of which they make baskets, and which they also eat. We tasted it, but I did not think it very palatable. John was out roving in the bidarrah most of the day. This afternoon I did some of my sewing.

Tuesday 9.—To-day we are having rainy weather. Sister Bachman and I ironed. The natives call Brother Kilbuck Agiulughta (priest), Sister Kilbuck, Suchdullera (the tall one), Brother Weber, Cossastsckeriak (the little white man) Sister Bachman, Nonghoyameak (the grandmother.) Me they call Nasonghalack (the girl.)

Wednesday 10.—In the forenoon we did the usual work and in the afternoon made some cur-

tains for the other house.

Thursday 11.—In the morning Brother and Sister Kilbuck and Sister Bachman went to Mr. Linds; I remained at home and got dinner. In the afternoon I did some sewing on the machine and pulled the weeds out of my flower bed

Friday 12.—To-day rainy. Sister Kilbuck went over in the other school-house to help Brother Weber cover some chairs which he has made and Sister Bachman is cleaning the house. I did the cooking, Mr. Lind's little girl came and brought us some salmon-trout and white-fish. Several natives came and wanted to trade with Brother Kilbuck. To-day the scow came back; some of the boys were gone with it to fish.

Saturday 13.—To-day again rainy. This morning we had the usual Saturday's work. In the evening it rained and snowed.

Sunday 14.—This forenoon we had service at 11 o'clock, at which, including the Mission family, 67 persons were present. At present there are five sick persons here; a sick woman, who came with her relatives yesterday to be treated. Procopi's child and one of the school-boys are also sick. At 3 P. M. we had a meeting at which a little girl, about 4 years old was baptized. She was named Mary. After that there was a wedding, a man named Ivan, being married to a woman called Mary. The woman was about 25 years old, the man 20. Brother Kilbuck called them up front and when he asked the usual questions the man answered uh (yes), while the woman merely nodded her head. When Brother Kilbuck insisted on her speaking, she did so in a very subdued tone. We did not get to congratulate them for as soon as service was over the woman rushed out; the man did not follow till some time after. There are three natives here from Mr. Sipary's place with mail which is to go with ours.

Monday 15.—To-day is Katie's birthday; she is 3 years old. Brother Weber bought a kyack for about \$6 worth of goods. This morning the natives chased two white whales, but they did not succeed in getting them. We watched them quite a time. This afternoon I made a cap for the bride of yesterday. All properly married women wear them, it is of calico very much like a sweeping-cap.

Tuesday 16.—This afternoon I gathered flowers to place in the coffin of Procopi's child, which is to be buried at 4 o'clock; it died this forenoon.

Wednesday 17.—Quite a number of strange natives are here.

Friday 19.—Still cloudy weather. This afternoon did some writing. The boys went to look at the fish-trap and brought back two boats full; so we had fresh fish for supper and also the first thing out of the garden—radishes.

Saturday 20.—To-day very pleasant weather and so clear that we could see the mountain peaks in the distance. This evening Procopi came and told Brother Kilbuck that there was mail for us at Mr. Linds. Brother Kilbuck went there and

got one letter from Mr. Sipary.

Sunday 21.—We had service at 11 o'clock and quite a number of strange natives were present. Mr. Lind was here for dinner; he generally stays here on Sunday. This afternoon about 4 o'clock we had Sunday-school and after that practiced some songs; the boys learned one new piece "Wonderful Words of Life." They sing real nicely. We are all in the enjoyment of good health and I hope that this journal will find you the same. To-morrow some of the natives will take our mail to Nushagak and bring back our mail. They will probably return some time in September or beginning of October. When vacation is over, about the last of August, I will begin giving one of the boys, Augustus, music lessons; He is the best scholar here. The things in our garden are growing nicely, but I doubt whether there will be any peas on the vines. Hoping that you are all well and with love to you all.

CARRIE A. DETTERER.

BETHLEHEM, PA.—The annual business meeting of the Society for Propagating the Gospel was held in the Old Chapel on Wednesday evening, September 18, at 8 o'clock. About fifty members of the Society were present and much interest in its work was manifested. Bro. H. T. Bachman, *Vice-President*, presided. In his opening remarks he mentioned the success which had attended those missions in which the Society is more especially interested, and reminded the members of the

death of the *President* of the Society, the late Bishop Amadeus A. Reinke. The only other member who died during the past year was Bro. Edwin P. Wolle. The report of the Board of Directors was read by the Recording Secretary, Bro. J. Taylor Hamilton. We extract therefrom as follows:

An iron railing has been placed around the monument commemorating the massacre at Lehighton (Gnadenhütten); the expense was paid out of the income of a bequest of the late Capt. Man amounting to \$1,000 which has been paid to the Society in trust, the income of which is to be devoted to the care of abandoned Moravian graveyards in this country. At the same time the sum of \$5,000 was received from the same testator, the income of which is to be used for the care of the Whitfield House at Nazareth and the grounds surrounding it. In January of this year the United States Government through the Bureau of Education paid \$500 for the school at Bethel, Alaska, for the period from May, 1887 to April, 1888; the total grant for the year ending April, 1889 is \$1,000. During the past Winter Bro. A. Schultze prepared a Grammar and Vocabulary of the Eskimo language, and 100 copies were printed at the expense of the Society. During the Spring Sister Carrie Dettner of Riverside, N. J., left for Bethel, and Bro. John Schöechert of Watertown, Wis., for Carmel, where they will assist the missionaries already stationed there. Moreover, as Mrs. Kilbuck's health had not been very good, Mrs. H. T. Bach-

man volunteered to go to Bethel with her son with the intention of spending one year in assisting the missionaries at that station. Recent advices report that Mrs. Kilbuck's health has greatly improved. At Bethel there are 24 converts, and the school, in which Bro. Weber assists, has been regularly maintained. Two of the girls attending the school at Carmel have requested to be confirmed. Besides liberal contributions in money, articles of clothing in great abundance have been received from our congregations in the United States and also in England. The sum of \$100 was appropriated towards the education of Thomas H. Bow, (one of the Chinese members of the Brooklyn, N. Y., congregation,) to prosecute his studies in the Protestant College at Canton under the care of Dr. Happer of the Presbyterian Church. The sum of \$600 was appropriated to found a German monthly missionary paper for children and \$200 as usual for THE LITTLE MISSIONARY. The usual amount of \$9,000, was appropriated to the General Missionary Fund, and \$5,134 for the Alaska Mission.

During the meeting letters were read from the Chinese student Thomas H. Bow and the following resolutions were adopted: *Resolved*, that the Board of Directors be instructed to consider the advisability of a visitation of the Alaska Mission during the year 1890 at the expense of the Society. *Resolved*, that the Board of Directors be instructed to consider the advisability of supplying the mission at Bethel, Alaska, with a steam launch.

The officers elected for the ensuing year are: *President*, Bishop H. T. Bachman; *Vice President*, Prof. Augustus Schultze; *Treasurer*, Rev. Robt. de Schweinitz; *Corresponding Secretary*, Prof. E. G. Klosé; *Recording Secretary*, Prof. J. Taylor Hamilton; *Assistant Directors*—J. Samuel Krause, C. Otto Brunner, Joseph H. Traeger, and Henry B. Luckenbach.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., OCTOBER 9, 1889.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

I. Letters from Brother Wolff.

CARMEL, Nushagak River, Alaska, }
August 10, 1889. }

DEAR BROTHER REINKE AND BRETHREN OF THE BOARD.—The few Summer days have again hurried by and it is time for us to finish our last mail for another year, as in about a week all the fishing vessels that have been here will have sailed again for San Francisco. It is very doubtful if another vessel of the Alaska Commercial Co. will be at Nushagak this Fall, as they sent one here in July. The vessels all sail earlier than usual, there being a small run of fish this year.

We have not opened school yet, but will do so now as soon as our mail for the States is finished.

The prospects for our school this Winter are at present not any better than they were last year at the opening of our school; but we believe that when cold weather comes we will have more natives coming to live in the village here. The report was last Summer that the Greek priest at Nushagak would certainly be removed this Summer; but he is still here, and will stay here all Winter. His attitude and disposition against our school and work seems to be the same as always. And the trader, Mr. Clark, seems half to side with him.

Does this frighten us or discourage us? No, we will continue the work, and push the school ahead with all our might; the Lord being our helper. Whilst the natives are threatened and warned and made to feel suspicious against us, and talked to, till the poor native does not know what to think, yet there are many who have confidence in us and are our friends, even if they have to do it more or less in a disguised way. I believe that the native is not as stupid as he looks, and that he is patiently waiting to see if we are sincere in our work.

Since Bro. Schœchert has come to our assistance we will be more able to visit the natives at a distance. The Lord willing, I shall endeavor to make a number of mission trips to get better acquainted with the natives, and also to gain a better knowledge of their language, and to obtain scholars for the school.

But what shall we do with scholars from a distance? We have no proper place to keep them. We can not keep any more in the house, as we have now already more than we have room for. Of course, as I wrote to the Mission Board last Fall, I built a hut for that purpose, but that is not satisfactory. We can accommodate a number of boys there; but as no one of us can stay there to look after them and keep them in order, with the evil winds blowing all the time from Nushagak, it is difficult to find a reliable native to stay with them. But we will try it again this Winter, and do the best we can, and we hope that by another year we will have better accommodations and the needful help.

To be to the point once more, what we need is a proper school building and at least another sister to help. If we can not have both, then send us the former first, for we have Bro. Schœchert here now, without a proper place to keep him. He is at present living in the garret where everything looks rough and uninviting and where it will be very cold in Winter. Another sister we can accommodate, as she can room with Miss Huber.

A splendid opportunity is offered us to get the necessary lumber and materials for a house from San Francisco. A few days ago the superintendent of the Bristol Bay Canning Co., and the Captain of their ship came to see us. He said that anything they could do for us, or bring for us, they would gladly do. I told him there might perhaps be lumber that we would need, and he said they had plenty of deck room on their

vessel so that they could bring 30,000 ft. for us. I feel sure they will charge very little or nothing for bringing it. The superintendent said you should only address your letters concerning your desire to the Bristol Bay Canning Co., San Francisco, Cal., and he himself would attend to whatever we wanted.

Now in regard to more help. If our work is to go ahead and the number of scholars to increase, the sisters must have more help to do the necessary house work and to care for the personal wants and necessities of the mission family and the children of the school. As it is now, Mrs. Wolff and Miss Huber have more to do than they should. A sister should come to help them, who is strong, healthy, able and willing. There is abundance of work; no native help can be obtained on which we are able to depend. Bro. Bachman in his letter wishes to know if a German sister will do. We do not think it advisable as our school children all learn to speak English.

I have made out our requisition for next year and will send it to you in this letter. We have not hesitated to state our wants freely as you requested us to do. We have always had plenty of everything we needed, since we are here. We thank the brethren for their kindness in supplying our wants so liberally. The bell we received is made of steel, and has a good tone; we all like it; the singing of the bell six times every Sunday reminds us of home, and brings Sabbath day feeling with it. We placed it on the school-house, where we have a good and solid place for it. The melodeon also arrived in good condition, and is just what we needed. Our provisions that we received this Summer proved so far very satisfactory.

We are sorry to say that one of our boys who lived with us for nearly a year was taken home by his father, who came for him day before yesterday. The boy's name is Vasilli and the father's name is Tridikoff, one of Mr. Clark's native traders about 250 or 300 miles from here. When the father placed him here, he agreed to pay \$48.00 a year for the boarding of his son, which he paid when he took him away. We used all our persuasive powers that the father should leave the boy another year; but he wanted him to go, as his mother wished to see him. He said he would send him back after a while. The boy liked it very much here, and did not care about going away very much; he was very industrious and made good progress in his studies. The morning before he left I had him sit down and write me a copy of a letter he had written to a good boy in Pennsylvania. The letter as it is was written by him without any help or correction. I send it to you just as he wrote it, as I thought it might interest you to see what progress a 12-year old Eskimo boy can make, who never had a pen in his hand and knew not a single letter or word of English when he came here. We hope he may be allowed to return.

I think Jacob and Ivan, the other two boys we

have living with us, have also written letters. I will also have them make copies of them, and enclose them.

Being at the trading-post one day we saw some walrus teeth; we wished to buy one for the Society for Propagating the Gospel, and one for the Theological Seminary, upon which the trader made us a present of them. We will box them and send them to Bro. R. de Schweinitz, together with a case of salmon. The fish are king salmon which we caught ourselves and packed them in the cans ourselves. The Arctic Commercial Company cooked them for us and gave us the empty cans. The salmon have thus far not cost the Mission anything, and perhaps some of the brethren will pay the freight on them. We thought that since our brethren have to hear so much about Alaska and its big fish, they would like to have a taste of them, and we hope they will enjoy them. We had 7 cases canned, which cost us nothing except our labor. We send some to Bethel every year.

August 19.—To morrow our mail is to be taken aboard the vessel. Since writing the above letter the messengers from Bethel arrived with the mail. We are glad they just arrived in time for the last vessel. We will keep the messengers waiting here till we see if the *Pearl* (schooner) will come from Ounalaska. If she comes she will probably have more mail for Bethel. Our mail together with the Bethel mail for the States makes a big sack full.

I am sorry to say that since writing the above about sending lumber the vessel of the Bristol Bay Canning Company has been wrecked on her homeward voyage while yet here in the Nushagak River. The wreck lies in sight of our house. So we do not know if they will be able to bring our lumber next Spring; but if they cannot perhaps one of the other vessels can, as they are all willing to do anything for us provided they have room.

Mrs. Wolff, Miss Huber and Bro. Schoechert join me in much love to you and the brethren and we feel sure that our dear people at home will not cease to pray for us, and for the Mission work in Alaska. Our son Ray hurt his arm two weeks ago, we feared it was broken but found that only dislocation or the fracture of a small bone near the elbow had taken place. We bandaged it in place and he is doing well and hope he will be all right again in a few weeks.

Your affectionate friend and brother,
F. E. WOLFF.

II. Letters from Brother Schoechert.

CARMEL, Nushagak River, Alaska. }
July 26, 1889. }

DEAR BRO. R. DE SCHWEINITZ:—In one of your last letters, you ask if there is any thing you can do for me. My very best thanks for your kind offer. I would like to ask your kind services in regard to several things. . . . We are in great hope about getting scholars, and keeping the school, although we have very great opposition in the Greek Church; the priest, and almost every one at Nushagak. Mr. Clark also who has influence and possesses the confidence of almost every one of the natives seems opposed to us.

I am very sorry to think it my duty to make such a remark about Mr. Clark; he has always used and treated me so very well. May these facts compel us to know that we can do nothing of ourselves, but must rely wholly on the grace of the Lord. Dear Bro. S. please allow me to ask more and more of your assistance for us in your prayers.

May the Lord come Himself, and open the eyes of these poor, poor people, and not only their eyes, but also their ears, and their hearts. Also our mouths, that we may be able to speak with a different tongue in their own language. I am sorry I cannot give you more accounts of some of our joys, pleasures, and trials. You will no doubt hear about them from others better than I can tell them to you. My kind greetings to you all,

You affectionate brother,

JOHN SCHOECHERT.

CARMEL, Nushagak River, Alaska. }
July 30, 1889. }

DEAR BRO. J. H. TRAEGER:—My health is good, though I have not increased in weight. I enjoy fishing, boat-riding, and hunting very much, also a good smoke which I generally take noon and evening along the beach of the river, and make a stop here or there in the village with some natives, I give them a pipe full of tobacco and then have a sociable smoke and talk. I think one of the most attractive things for an Eskimo or Indian is to have a smoke with any one. I say we have a talk, it is but a very limited one. They will tell me some of their words; I will tell them the English, which some of them try to learn.

I think and hope I will also enjoy driving dogs, and snow-shoeing in Winter. My opinion about the Greek priest has changed a little, but only a little. He and especially the deacon seem to be a little quiet at present. I think they attend to their own affairs just now a little more. Yesterday while walking along the beach, I met the deacon. He excused himself very politely, saying he only wanted to get a gun from the village. He knows that we do not care to see him in the village very often. His main object in coming is to get drunk and raise a disturbance. I saw him go home sober; but had no gun. When asked, he said he sent it down with a bidarka. I try to stay on good terms with him and the priest. Whenever we meet we have a handshake and converse together a little.

The health of the natives is not very good. If they only knew a little more about taking care of themselves. They are not as large and strong as I had expected to find them. Yesterday while at Nushagak I weighed several of the men and boys. They averaged from 125 to 165 lbs. Brother Wolff and family's health, since I am here, has been fair, only a few spells of not feeling very well by one or the other.

Our work has been mostly laying in supplies of fish, writing, getting ready to go up the river for wood. Brother W. built a small boat which will come in very handy for that purpose. I cut the turf. On rainy days I study.

August 4.—I beg you, dear Bro. Traeger, to keep on with your prayers for us, especially for me, for I am in great need of them. May the Lord Jesus Christ look with mercy on us. May He teach, guide, and direct me, that I may become a more and more profitable servant for the glorifying of His Name!

About our main work keeping school, getting scholars, civilizing the natives and converting them, I am in very great hope in spite of the opposition we have. May the Lord give that if we sow continuously and with tears, He will surely not let the great harvest fail. I am also in good hope of making several trips (Brother Wolff or I) this Fall and Winter with the boat, and with the dogs to different villages. We will of course meet with difficulties and discouragements. But our dear Lord and Saviour will stand by us. May He strengthen our faith, when our eyes are too weak to see through the darkness.

August 10.—Yesterday we were obliged to see Vassilli one of the three boys that stayed here go home with his father, his mother wanting to see him. What a feeling it was for us to see him depart—just as if one of the family left. Although very small for his age, he was bright and quick, and a very quiet boy, always ready to do what was to be done. I went down to Nushagak with him to see him off, and bid him the last farewell, as we hardly dare to hope to see him back, for his home is 250 to 300 miles from here. There are no wagon roads, or any kind of trails by land, the only way to go being with their bidarka by water, or in Winter with dogs and sleigh.

Dear Bro. Traeger, I must hurry to come to an end, for there are several letters commenced which I must finish. How shall I end? For when I write to you, there are so many things which I would like to repeat to you about this wonderful

country, and its great field of labor, that I hardly know what to write.

Mr. Louis Günther, a strong well-set man aged 48 years, is a true, and a warm-hearted friend and brother, and is also a great helper to us. How good it made him feel, I cannot describe, when he received different presents which showed that he was also remembered. I hope the Provincial Elders' Conference or the Mission Board will not find very many faults in the list of wants I made out. I took it a good deal after Bro. Wolff, for I do not yet know exactly what I would need so far ahead. You will see that I have increased the tobacco, in order to be more liberal to the natives, and for the same reason I have asked for a good many handkerchiefs. I like to give one now and then to a native as a reward.

May the Lord look with mercy upon us, and strengthen our faith, and increase our love, that we may become more and more like the apostles in olden times, to turn the darkness into light. May God richly bless you and your family and your clerks in the store. With much love,

Your affectionate Brother,
JOHN SCHOECHERT.

CARMEL, Nushagak River, Alaska. }
August 17, 1889. }

DEAR BRO. H. T. BACHMAN:—My mind and heart are so full that I hardly can find words to express my thoughts. How richly God has blessed me in many different ways in joys and pleasures, in trials and difficulties, and in dangers where I have been in. With His almighty grace He has carried me through and over, yes over and over, the waves of the waters and storms of this life. I say this life as if I thought I had the greater part behind me. O, no! The last few years, it has always seemed to me as if I only had got started. If so, may the Lord ever and always be my Guide, and strengthen my faith more and more, that when the trials come and I can not see my way clearly, I always may know He is leading me. All I am to do is to follow Him willingly.

A few days ago we were greatly rejoiced by receiving the mail from Bethel, which we very galdly now can forward with our mail by one of the fishing vessels. Among the letters for us were two for me, one from Sister Detterer in which they related the continuance of the trip, after I had left them at Ounalaska, and how they found our friends at Bethel, the climate, etc. We are very much cheered to hear that they arrived safely after so long a journey, and that at Bethel all of them are enjoying the very best of health. Our health in general has been fair. Sister Wolff at times does not feel very well. My health has been good, and is good, my weight is the same as when I left the States.

A few days ago, we had a funeral here of a fisherman who was drowned last year. His brother came up purposely this year, to have him taken to San Francisco. The vessel on which the body was, being wrecked, he had him brought over here. The burial of the fisherman thus started a cemetery here, around which we shall make a fence this Fall and in it plant some trees. It is a very nice place for that purpose, somewhat high with sandy bottom. The frost there had all been out of the ground.

The garden vegetables have been very good, such as lettuce, radishes, and turnips, which we have had a number of times already. The weather of late has been very favorable, so we think that the potatoes, cabbage, peas, etc., may turn out well yet.

The vessel which was wrecked is a very pitiful sight. They left on the 10th of August, and drifted down with the tide. After having gone about one mile, they drifted ashore and could not get off. The ship sprung a leak, which makes it unseaworthy. On board, they had about 70 white men, 92 Chinamen, and 30,000 cases of salmon. I was over there a few days ago. Everything on board was in great confusion. Men were unloading the salmon. The ship lies way on one side. The captain hardly goes out of his cabin. On the 15th of this month he sold it for \$1,175, at auction, Mr. Clark being the buyer.

As soon as the fishing vessels are gone Bro. Wolff will commence school (about three days yet). I will then go up the river for fire-wood. In Winter, if possible, Bro. Wolff or I shall try to

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go over to Bethel, or, maybe, Bro. Kilbuck will come here, as he said in his letter.

We are in great hope about the school, also of making these trips to different villages, so that we may become more and more able to help these poor natives. May God richly bless us and the work here. May our brethren and sisters at home always remember us in their prayers.

Your affectionate Brother
JOHN SCHOECHERT.

III. Letters Written by Eskimo Boys in the Mission School at Carmel.

[*Verbatim et literatim.*]

CARMEL, ALASKA, July 23, 1889.

Thank you for that pretty ball what you sent me I play hide and seek and play with my bow and arrow, and some time I dint and some time I make sling shot seagull and snipes, and some day Mr. Wolff said I shall go with Mr. Schoechert and I says yes and I tell Woscilly and Woscilly says yes and Mr. Schoechert says get your coat and I quick get our coat and our rubbercoat and me and Mr. Schoechert going down to the boat and Woscilly come down and he got kettle and Mr. Schoechert says I shall get some water and I say yes and I quick take bottle and Mr. Schoechert quick and I ran home and I says Sophie give me some water and Sophie says yes and Sophie quick pump same and I hallyup Now going down to the boat and Mr. Schoechert first row and me last and Mr. Schoechert began to net out and me began to row and Now going down by thar Nushagak Now put sail up that so very windy day was so cold and Woscilly too and put our rubbercoats on that day so rain and Mr. Schoechert, says we shall all go home now Mr. Schoechert put sail up I hold sail and rudder and Woscilly nothing to do and I got seventeen fish then began to rain and wind blow hard and I all most fall in water and Mr. Schoechert says I shall go inder cover up with rubbercoat and Woscilly too and Ivan ask Mr. Wolff says yes you can go and so glad and water so cold and we shall go home and Ivan so glad I too go home.

JACOB.

CARMEL, ALASKA, July 24, 1889.

DEAR FRANK:—I would like to send you sometime little bow and arrow my school and my teacher Mr. Wolff my school book first Reader and Ivan too and Marion too first Reader to-day ourder ask go for berries me and Jacob after dinner if Mr. Wolff says yes you can go. Jacob and me I am so glad I say you picture pretty boy I have some two sisters name is Sophie and Bolanga and two brothers name is Mesga and Kulia and my father name is Tridikoff and my mother name is Funa and my grenmother name is Mariea village my cousin name is Simeon and his sister name is Sophie and my cousin name little cross befim little Cris too my cousin two boys name is Jacob and Ivan poor boys No mother long time go die I can snet see my papa and mamma far off by and by come I says poor Ray sick arm argo tell you about me I have some right hand two

thumbs and I says you good boy name is Frank and I play hide and seek and play too I shoot with my bow and arrow to play and jump rope and play to sling shot and one time go for berries and Jacob and shoot bow arrow and blanday grouse.

WOSCILLY TRIDIKOFF.

IV. A Letter from Brother Kilbuck.

BETHEL, ALASKA, July 22, 1889.

DEAR BRO. BACHMAN:—To-day I intend to start messengers to Nushagak with our Fall mail, and by this mail I send you these few lines, in which we tender you with grateful hearts, our thanks for the *loan* of your dear wife. It is not in my line to *gush*; but I do fully appreciate your generosity in permitting Sister Bachman and John to come up here, and thus deprive you of a home for a whole year. We all will take good care of your dear ones, so that as far as it lies in our power, they shall return to you none the worse for the wear and tear of a Winter spent in Alaska.

John is enjoying Alaska, but can't stand the mosquitoes. These tormentors will, however, soon be frost bitten, and he will then have peace. He takes to the canoe like an Indian, and is out whenever the weather permits. I told him he

should not go out in windy weather. He is, however, careful and has good nerves, even if he is nervous. He and I get along very well.

I need not sing your wife's virtues to you, her life's companion, for you know them better than we do. We shall sadly miss her, when she leaves us, and I think it will be a long time before we shall get a sister as well fitted for this work as she is, even if she is about to celebrate her jubilee.

Sister Kilbuck gained wonderfully in strength even before the sisters came, proving that united prayer "availeth much." Now that she has companions, she is like another woman, and if I mistake not she will soon be herself again. The rest of us have continued in our wonted health.

We look forward to the coming year with a great hope of being able to accomplish much in the way of publishing the gospel.

God bless and uphold you in your arduous position. With kind remembrance from all,

I remain your affectionate brother,

J. H. KILBUCK.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., OCTOBER 30, 1889.

DON'T FORGET ALASKA.—That the Alaska Auxiliary Societies in our congregations are diligently, even if quietly, at work, we sincerely trust. We know that silence is no conclusive evidence of inaction, and have reason to believe that the gifts for this cause are being gathered at even an earlier date than usual in some

places. Yet an occasional reminder may not be amiss elsewhere, for thus far, as compared with former years, they are not too large. Do not let Alaska be slighted to increase gifts elsewhere. We must expand the opening of our purse all around. Remember that his blessing is great, who, though poor himself, helps to make many rich.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., NOVEMBER 6, 1889.

UNEXPECTED NEWS FROM ALASKA.—On the morning of October 28, most unlooked for letters arrived in Bethlehem, from Carmel, Alaska. An extra ship had been sent to the Nushagak River, to rescue the cargo of the wreck mentioned in former letters of our missionaries. Hence the unwonted opportunity to send mail late in the year. Here it was, therefore, an ill wind that blew nobody any good. From the accounts thus received, it appears that the work is going on as usual. Journeys in search of pupils from a distance have met with considerable success. It was to be hoped that the influence of the Greek priest will accordingly be less felt to the detriment of the school this Winter.

We give elsewhere extracts from the diary of Brother Schœchert. The Lord watch over all our messengers in that bleak Northern land, when the days are short and the cold severe.

A LETTER has been received from Bro. Wolff, of Carmel, Alaska, under date of October 18, containing information of the well being of all the Mission family and stating that two journeys had been made into the interior for the purpose of securing scholars—the brethren being successful in their efforts.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

Extracts from the Journal of Brother J. H. Schœchert.

May 3, 1889.—Visited our ship, which was receiving its cargo. Called at the office of the Alaska Commercial Co., where I saw many curiosities from Alaska. Received kind attentions from Mr. J. B. Roberts, 415 Montgomery Street.

May 4, Saturday.—Dark and rainy. Visited various parts of the city. Mr. Roberts paid us a call and invited us to his church to-morrow, the Howard Presbyterian.

May 5.—Still raining. Going to church, we were introduced before the service to the pastor, the Rev. Cornelius, who prayed that God's blessing might rest upon our work in Alaska. Service was from 11 to 12:30. Sunday-school followed immediately after, Mr. Roberts taking us into his class. Evening service was at 7:45, the theme being the duties of young women. We enjoyed the privileges of the day exceedingly.

May 6.—Letters reached us from the East today, which did us much good, as the constant rain kept us indoors.

May 7.—Beautiful weather. We visited the Chinese Mission School. There was a fire a few blocks from our hotel, which the engines soon put out.

May 8.—This forenoon we all took a walk to the Golden Gate Park—a splendid place, with a very extensive green-house in which tropical plants were exhibited. To-night we attended a prayer-meeting at which Sister Bachman spoke.

May 9.—There was another fire in our neighborhood, about three o'clock in the morning. Made a number of purchases for our voyage, with the assistance of Mr. Roberts who is very helpful and kind to us all.

May 10.—The latest news is that the steamer *St. Paul* will leave on Monday the 13th.

May 11.—Under escort of our friend Mr. Roberts we paid a visit to Mr. L. Albrecht in Fruitvale, a member of the Presbyterian Church who has one of the loveliest gardens I have ever seen, with rose bushes ten to fifteen feet high.

May 12.—Our second Sunday here. We attended the Presbyterian Church. After Sunday-school there was the funeral of an old man who came here in 1848, a consistent Christian all his life, the pastor said. The evening service was especially for young people, the subject of the sermon being honesty.

May 13.—We are getting ready to leave, saying farewell to our friends. We visited and took dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins, of Alameda, across the bay. Mrs. Hopkins was formerly a member of our Church in Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Harbaugh were there who were also former members of our Church.

May 14.—Settled our bill at the hotel. The weather has been cool during our stay. Everything seems to grow well hereabouts.

May 15.—Left San Francisco at 11 A.M., Mr. Roberts and Mrs. Albrecht seeing us off. The officers and steward are very polite and kind. I was sick in a couple of hours, and a most miserable feeling is sea-sickness. Mr. Sipary, a trader from the Kuskokwim beyond Bethel, is a passenger, so the sisters will have company beyond Ounalaska. This is the second voyage of the *St. Paul* this year. She left San Francisco for Ounalaska in March and returned in April. This time she will proceed to St. Michael's on the Yukon, and will make one more voyage this year.

May 17.—To-day I can go to dinner. It is too stormy to use sails.

May 18.—We are all over our sea-sickness except Sister Bachman. Everything is very cou-

veniently arranged, and the fare excellent. To-day all the sails are set, and the wind is favorable. There are two mules on board, being taken to the Seal Islands.

May 19, Sunday.—Stormy again. Enjoyed reading the papers given us by Mr. Roberts, *The Illustrated Christian Weekly*, *The Occident*, *The Sunday-school Times*, *The Messenger*, etc.

May 20.—Head seas, and the ship rocks very much. It is getting cooler. The steam heat was turned into our rooms to-day to warm them. We often think of our brethren on the Atlantic [the delegates to the General Synod who left New York

on May 14]. Our Captain tells us that it is pleasant to travel on the Atlantic Ocean at this time of the year. So we hope our brethren will enjoy their trip.

May 21.—We make slow progress in the head-seas. The sails can not be used much. Mrs. Bachman was able to come to her meals.

May 23.—A nice calm day, and we are going along smoothly.

May 25.—There are in all fifteen passengers, thirteen first cabin and two steerage. Our ship's crew number thirty; one Captain, three mates, eight sailors, three stewards, two doctors, one cook, two assistant cooks, two engineers, two oilers, two firemen, two coalheavers, one watchman, and one store-keeper.

May 26.—We are making about two hundred and ten miles a day, our fastest speed thus far. We have seen a few whales blowing at a distance.

May 27.—At eight A.M. we get the first sight of land.

THE MORAVIAN.

BETHLEHEM, PA., NOVEMBER 13, 1889.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

CARMEL, Nushagak River, Alaska, }
October 10, 1889. }

DEAR BRO. REINKE:—Last Friday evening October 4, a steamer arrived quite unexpectedly from San Francisco. Her captain reported that another steamer sailed three days ahead of them, also for Nushagak. The steamers were sent out for the cargo of the schooner *Wildwood*, which was wrecked here this Fall. The one that has arrived here is about ready to return, while the one sent first has not been heard from yet. We received only one letter and some papers, all from Mr. James B. Roberts in San Francisco. No doubt there was more mail for us as we did not receive any by way of Ounalaska, no vessel arriving from there this Fall. We, therefore, think that our mail is on the steamer which first left the city. We also expect her to bring potatoes and various other articles which we ordered from San Francisco. The superintendent of the Bristol

Bay Canning Co. came back with the steamer and was very thoughtful and kind in remunerating us with a box of apples, a water melon, a squash, bunches of celery, 1½ dozen peaches, and about a peck of tomatoes and 2 heads of cabbage. ~~also~~ was able to obtain 6 bushels of potatoes from the captain of the steamer. We were very glad for the fruits and vegetables, especially the children. We succeeded in raising about one bushel of potatoes and six bushels of turnips in our garden.

Several weeks ago Bro. Schœchert and I made a trip to the North, visiting the natives at the lakes. We were away nine days and traveled nearly 200 miles in our fishing-boat. We found that most of the natives living at the lakes had gone to the mountains to trap. At one ~~large~~ village there was not a single person at home. Later on we met some natives scattered along the shores of the lake, where they were fishing and cutting wood, living in temporary camps. We were received kindly by all we met, but were disappointed in finding so few at home. Nevertheless, we succeeded in getting four boys for the school. Jacob our eldest school boy went along and interpreted for us. He does very well and is a willing boy. I had intended to go on a trip up the Nushagak River somewhat later, but found it advisable to stay at home and take care of the scholars whom we have, as the Greek priest had

already during our absence given some of the children orders not to stay with us. So I sent Bro. Schœchert, Jacob and another native. As they have been gone ten days I expect them home soon. They will probably bring more scholars, as Bro. Schœchert wrote me a note from the first village at which they stopped, stating that there were four boys there willing to come. That was on the fourth day after they left us. At present we have fifteen scholars in our school, eight of whom are boarders. The latest news is that the Greek priest has applied for a passage on the steamer to San Francisco, and we hope it is true. He will, however, leave Deacon Orloff in charge of the Mission.

Evening.—Bro. Schœchert has just returned from his trip up the Nushagak River, where he visited four villages. He brought with him six boys for the school and also a blind man and woman, the parents of one of the boys, whose eyes are also in a bad condition. We have now fifteen people living in the hut and three in the house for whom we are caring. Our sod hut is a poor place for so many people, being too small and inconvenient. We could have had a number of girls from up the river, but had to tell them we could not take them as we have no room for them now. We now have twenty-one scholars on the rolls, and will yet visit several villages at the mouth of the river, where we expect to get some more, so that our school-room will be filled to its utmost capacity.

While Bro. Schœchert was up the Nushagak River, he looked for building logs, but says he saw nothing fit for the purpose. Of course, there are plenty of scrubby trees, which could with

great difficulty be gotten out, but it would cost much to get them and prepare them, and then they would not make a satisfactory building, the logs being full of knots from top to bottom.

We are all pretty well. Mrs. Wolff's health has improved considerably, so that she was able to teach the school while Bro. Schoechert and I went to the lakes. Brethren; cease not to pray for us and our work. We are of good cheer and feel confident that the Lord has answered our daily prayers. Our entire Mission party joins me in much love to you and all the brethren.

I remain your affectionate friend and brother,
F. E. WOLFF.

THE ALASKA MISSION.

For THE MORAVIAN.

From Bethel to Carmel.

[Although we have already been privileged to give a general account of the experiences of Brother Kilbuck on his memorable trip last Winter, we feel sure none of our readers will begrudge the space devoted to the following excerpts from the journal which he wrote at that time for Sister Kilbuck, and which have been kindly copied for us by her father, Brother J. Romig, of Independence, Kansas.—EDS. MORAVIAN]

Wednesday, December 5, 1888.—It is a good thing you could not know how we were situated last night or you would not have slept a wink. Instead of reaching a village, we camped aside of a clump of willows. It was our good fortune that it was not cold. We lost the road in the morning and all day we went this way and that way, but no road or sign of village could we find. The snow and wind were the cause of our being lost. After it was dark we found a bag of black-fish; but we could not see any sign of a road, and therefore thought it best to stop and camp. We fed the bag of black-fish to the dogs, and then with great patience we managed to boil water and we had tea. We had to burn green willow twigs. After tea, in the dark, we pitched our tents, and we were soon wrapped in our blankets. I slept as warmly as I do at home, although my bed was too short and rather hard, the ground being like rock. I looked at my watch after I was in bed and it was only 7.30 P.M. I soon went to sleep and the next time I woke up and looked at my watch it was 3 A.M.

At 8 A.M. we began to break camp and at 8.30 we started on our hunt for a road or village. We did not take time for tea. Before long it must have been blowing a gale. At times we could just barely see as far as from the house to the barrabara. We were entirely at sea as to our whereabouts and therefore concluded to sail before the wind. About noon we stopped for tea.

Here I ate the first pie. Up to this time it was not cold, but after dinner (or breakfast) it turned colder. The snow would eddy around our faces,

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thing, but I was so tired and hungry, I could not drive out such ideas. The snow was deep, deep, deep, except on the large lakes. Sometimes on entering a lake we would almost have to swim through the snow banks. My poor dogs were tired too. For pay I fed them an extra allowance. I will buy some more dogs here, so that we can travel a little faster. The natives believe I can almost catch up with the Nushagak party. If I had not lost one day, in all likelihood I would have gained one day on them, but as it is I will only make up the lost day. Last night I did not get asleep until 10 o'clock, and at 3 A.M. I was awakened by the natives moving around. They were taking their breakfast! I tried hard to go to sleep again, but to no purpose. After breakfast the drums were taken down and the racket began. I would feel better for a little more sleep, but I will have to be content with 5 hours, with the prospect of another hard day before me. Yesterday it was very cold, my nose got a bite.

Sunday, December 9, 1888—Here at Queen-hagamute I am spending my Sunday. When we were traveling in that blizzard I sprained my left knee and since then I have been quite lame. For two days I could just walk. So far I had to break the road, and as the snow is pretty deep, and some places nearly waist deep, I could not sit on the sled all the time. To-day my leg is considerably better so that by to-morrow morning I can travel again.

At Apohkagamute I lost three dogs, and I could get no guide, not even to this village. Before evening we reached a village, after wandering about considerably, and as I could not find out just how far it was to the next village I camped. Here I got a guide, who of his own accord offered his assistance all the way to Nushagak. I learn that the party I am following is traveling very slowly. If I had had the same good roads they had, I should have caught up with them to day or to-morrow. They are now possibly at Togiak.

Last night the people here had a grand feast. One man dealt out two very large bags of oil, and ice cream by the wholesale. About seven bags of frozen dog salmon, white-fish and small cod-fish were dealt out. The natives began to eat at 5.30 P.M. and at 8 P.M. the feast was over. Like Mr. Lind, I got quite hungry (although I had just eaten supper) when I could see and hear their evident relish of their feast. I believe I would have paid 50 cents for a dish of good ice cream, although I never cared much for it.

Here smelt fishing is in order, and every time I eat a big dish full of fine fellows, I think of you and wish you could have a good mess too. I don't think these people are ever in want of food. Oil they have by the wholesale, frozen fish of all kinds. The women are out fishing for smelts now, as it is warm. When they have a storm from the South then they go out in their kyacks, seal fishing. I can see plenty of open water. I am somewhat uneasy lest you are not all well, but I must feel assured that the Lord will be with you to strengthen and comfort you.

Wednesday, December 12, 1888.—This afternoon at 1 o'clock we arrived at this village Mumtrahamute. I have been on the road now 10 days, and I am still a good way from my destination. The road is very bad, as you will know when I say it took us five days to make a distance that would under favorable circumstances require

two and a half days. Day before yesterday we dragged the sleigh over gravel and yesterday over the bare tundra. To-day we had a fair road and in spite of my dogs having sore feet I made a long distance. Usually, that is, under good circumstances, the road lies some distance out on the sea. But when we came along, it happened to be warm, and the wind blowing off shore, so that the natives warned us not to venture out, but to keep along the beach. This is going to be a long and trying journey. However, when I return the road may be good. How the road is below, is hard to tell. It may take us another ten days to Nushagak.

The guides that the party ahead took along have not returned yet, so that I have no fear but that I will catch up to them yet before we get to Nushagak. Last evening I had my first taste of seal meat. It was killed in the morning, so it was quite fresh. It was fine. I now have learned why the natives believe that I belong to their country. Their supposition is that some one of their number was carried off on the ice, as it frequently happens, and that this man was rescued or landed among the white people and that I am his off-spring.

Last night we camped with a very entertaining man. He could count up to 20 in English and Russian, and is anxious to learn more English. He lives alone with his family, and entertained us to the best of his ability. He told, how when seal hunting in his kyack, he came near being carried out to sea. He had espied two seals asleep on the ice, so he quietly paddled up and killed both of them. By that time it was getting dark, and while returning with his load he entered without knowing it, an opening in the ice. Before long he saw his position, but not before the ice began to come together. He had not time to get out of his kyack, when the ice closed and wedged his kyack fast. Fortunately his boat was not crushed, but simply wedged in the mushy snow. He remained there all night. He said he thought more about his family, wife and three children, than he did about himself. In the morning he saw an opening near by, and by hard work he managed to loosen his kyack and launch it in the open water. Away he paddled and safely reached home, much to the joy of his family, who thought that he was lost.

Sunday, December 16, 1888.—This is my second Sunday away from home and I am not yet at my journey's end. Yesterday noon I arrived at the village of Togiak. There I remained until to-day noon, when I crossed the bay to the traders station. This is the first sight of civilization I have seen since I left Bethel. The house is fixed up quite neatly. The room I am writing in is the

trader's room and is papered and wainscoted with calico. The ceiling is also covered with calico. The trader is a native, but is able to read Russian. He is not much of a talker, but is paying every attention to my comfort. From Mumtrahamute we had a tough road. We slept out two nights, which makes four times that I have slept outside. Fortunately it has been warm every time. I find it is much warmer down here than at Bethel. There is hardly any snow, the tundra being in fact bare, which accounts for our slow traveling. I am afraid that I will be absent a long time from home, for it threatens to rain. If it should rain what little snow there is will disappear, and I will be compelled to wait for more snow.

At Togiak village we were treated royally. As soon as I arrived I received an invitation to tea. One native was especially attentive to us, supplying all our food, even dog feed. He comes from the Kuskokwim river. All the pay he wanted was to drink tea with us. Here I first noticed quite a change for the better amongst the people. A great many of the women wear caps, which denotes that they are properly married. The women as a rule were very cleanly in appearance and very kind. I saw several quite pretty young women to-day.

Alaska Packing Co.'s Cannery, Monday, December 24, 1888.—Here I am Christmas Eve, just opposite Carmel, not 3 miles away, and yet so far. For I must make a long trip up the river before I can cross and this will take about two days. I have struck rainy weather, and it is hard to tell

when it will stop raining. To-day I traveled in rain and through water ankle deep. I arrived here about 1.30 P.M. and was welcomed by a Danish lad of 19 who was the only one at home. In a short time I was in dry clothes and in civilized quarters. My host's two companions were visiting at the lower cannery, so he did the entertaining. In a short time he set up a splendid dinner, fresh pork fried and potatoes with their jackets on, rye bread, tea, good butter and sweet crackers. Oh! but I did eat. In about three hours the head man arrived post haste. He learned from a party of natives who followed us, that I was here, and fearing lest I would find no one at home, he left a Christmas feast to come and give me welcome. Was not that very kind? I find the men plain and simple and uneducated, with large and open hearts. Early this morning two white men started from here to Carmel to see a Christmas tree. When I ever will get to my destination I do not know, for it still rains, and the natives tell me (the white men also) that it is too wet on the other side to travel. I will therefore spend Christmas here.

Christmas morning, 1888.—I am sitting by the window, and before me lies the Nushagak river, running high with waves, driven by a strong wind. The opposite shore is distinctly to be seen, and yet I am so far from our friends. If it were not so windy, I would cross in a kyack as the river is clear of ice.

Carmel, December 28, 1888.—It is now 12 o'clock; but I can not feel at liberty to go to bed until I have at least in a measure written up my journal. You must be patient and let me begin where I left off. During the 25th it rained, and a strong wind was raging. Towards evening it calmed and began to clear off. The rest of the cannery party returned from below, accompanied by one visitor. All were very anxious to entertain me, so that I should not feel lonesome. The fishermen belonging to the place literally gave up the house to me. On the 26th it was beautifully clear, but it was not very cold. I did not start on that day for Carmel, because the natives advised me to wait until it was colder. You see it has been raining so much that the lakes and creeks are filled with water, and we must wait until this water freezes hard enough to bear us up. On Thursday, the 27th, at 8 o'clock I started for the last stage of my journey. I had splendid roads, and by 3.30 P.M. I was at Rolff's Cannery. Mr. Günther escorted the team up to Bro. Wolff's. As I arrived it commenced to rain. Mr. Günther took me to the work shop, where Bro. Wolff was, and presented me. Bro. Wolff was surprised, but heartily welcomed me. He then ran to the kitchen door, and cried, "Aunt Mary, Bro. Kilbuck is here." Then he came back to the shop, and Aunt Mary ran through the house and cried, "Sister Wolff, Bro. Kilbuck is here." There was quite a commotion, you may well imagine. After I came into the house, I was welcomed by the Sisters. All the children, Roy, Marion and the scholars were presented. The native children felt quite highly honored. One boy was not present at the time, but later he complained that he had not shaken hands with me. He was accordingly brought to the study, and especially presented. Then he was satisfied. Aunt Mary, the dear good soul, gave me her room, and said that I could smoke in it. But I can not spoil her room after she is so good as to give it up. I gave Roy his mittens and Marion her doll head, saying that they were from you. Roy did not say much, but one could see by his eyes that he was happy and proud of his gift. "Now he could go out in the cold." "Just the thing he needed." Marion danced around with her doll and when she went to bed she took it along. She has a doll body just ready for such a head. . . . We sat up until after 12 o'clock.

BETHLEHEM, PA., MARCH, 1891.

Alaska Boys at School.

DEAR LITTLE MISSIONARY:—I was so busy with my own lessons last month that before I thought of it it was too late to write about the Alaska school boys in time for your last paper, but now I must try to keep my promise. First, the school-house, which is also the church, is a log cabin with only one room, but it will hold 150 people if they crowd in as they sometimes do, especially at Christmas, but then most of them must sit on the floor which they rather like to do.

There are enough benches for all the scholars, about 25 boys and 5 or 6 girls, but no desks except the teacher's table. The girls live up at the trading-post at Mr. Lind's, and the boys sleep on the floor of the bath-house with ear-pets and blankets for covering. In the morning about half past eight o'clock, when it is still quite dark up there in winter, Mr. Weber rings the bell which is on a high post between the mission house and the school, and then the boys jump up and wash themselves a little with snow, or water if it is handy, and hurry off to the fish house to get their breakfast. Each one gets a piece of bread and a little lump of brown sugar made into a kind of candy and plenty of dried fish, which they wash down with cold water. Then at 9 o'clock school begins. It would make you laugh to see these rows of brown boys and girls, nearly all dressed alike in a cotton shirt, fur parka, overalls and skin boots filled with grass. Sometimes it is very cold in spite of the big stove and the teacher must then put on his parka too.

The school is opened with singing a hymn. The scholars can only learn about one verse a week, but it don't take them so long to catch up the tune. Then they take up the lessons,—reading, spelling, writing on their slates, and some of the smarter ones learn arithmetic too.

At 10.30 o'clock Mr. Weber calls out *Tok-chanchtuk*, which means "stop a little." At once the pupils rush for the door, and if they see boats coming on the river they cry "Yuk, yuk, yuk," or if a flock of wild geese is in sight they call "Yluck, yluck, yluck." Then they snow-ball one another, or roll large snow-balls, and if they have sleds pull one another or go coasting. When it is very cold the smaller boys and girls stay in the school room and play there, or help themselves to the skins of the fish which may have been thrown away. After recess the lessons are again taken up till 12 o'clock, when the teacher says *Tok-kuck*, which means "stop."

As my letter might get too long I will also stop here and write more next month.

But I must yet say that mamma and I fetched George home from Carlisle on February 24.—He was not as sick as we expected to find him, and has improved a good deal since he is with us. He is taking regular treatment for different troubles from a doctor here.

JOHN H. BACHMAN.

Bethlehem, March 12, 1891.

— Our readers will regret to learn that George, one of the Alaska boys who recently came to the States and had entered the Indian school at Carlisle, Pa., is not in good health and has been compelled to leave school. Pray for him!

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FEBRUARY 3, 1887.

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations with the amendments of the Senate and ordered to be printed.

Omit the parts struck through and insert the parts printed in *italics*.

AN ACT

Making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-eight, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the following sums be, and the same are hereby, appro-
4 priated for the objects hereinafter expressed for the fiscal
5 year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-
6 eight, namely:

356 REVENUE-CUTTER SERVICE.

357 For expenses of the Revenue-Cutter Service: For pay
358 of captains, lieutenants, engineers, cadets, and pilots employed,
359 and for rations for the same; for pay of petty officers, sea-
360 men, cooks, stewards, boys, coal-passers, and firemen, and
361 for rations for the same; for fuel for vessels, and repairs and
362 outfits for the same; ship-chandlery and engineers' stores for

363 the same; traveling expenses of officers traveling on duty
364 under orders from the Treasury Department; instruction of
365 cadets; commutation of quarters; for protection of the in-
366 terests of the Government on the seal-islands and the sea-
367 otter hunting-grounds, and the enforcement of the provisions
368 of law in Alaska; contingent expenses, including wharfage,
369 towage, dockage, freight, advertising, surveys, labor, and
370 miscellaneous expenses which cannot be included under spe-
371 cial heads, nine hundred and fifteen thousand dollars

466 COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

467 For every expenditure requisite for and incident to the
468 survey of the Atlantic, Gulf, and Pacific coasts of the United
469 States and the coast of the Territory of Alaska, including the
470 survey of rivers to the head of tide-water or ship navigation;
471 deep-sea soundings; temperature and current observations
472 along the coasts and throughout the Gulf Stream and Japan
473 Stream flowing off the said coasts; tidal observations; the nec-
474 essary resurveys; the preparation of the Coast Pilot; im-
475 proving the magnetic maps of the United States and
476 adjacent waters, and the tables of magnetic declination,

587 (113) + 7 26. For continuing explorations in the waters of
588 Alaska, and making hydrographic surveys in the same; and
589 for the establishment of astronomical longitude and mag-
590 netic stations between Sitka and the southern end of the
591 Territory, (114) *five twelve thousand dollars (115); of which*
592 *sum six thousand dollars shall be immediately available.*

615 (127) 22 34. For continuing tide observations on the
616 Pacific coast, at Kadiak, in Alaska, and at Saucelito, near San
617 Francisco, in California, two thousand (128) two--hundred
618 and-fifty five hundred dollars.

992 (151) *And the Secretary of the Treasury is required*
993 *to submit estimates to Congress, at its next session, to cover*
994 *the necessary expense of establishing and maintaining a per-*
995 *manent party on the coast of Alaska, for the survey of the*
996 *bays, inlets, and mouths of the principal rivers along that*
997 *coast, to include such vessels and boats, and other means of*
998 *conveyance, and houses, and provisions, and furs, fuel, and*
999 *other supplies that are necessary for such permanent party.*

1228 ALASKAN SEAL-FISHERIES.

1229 For salaries and traveling expenses of agents at seal-
1230 fisheries in Alaska, as follows: For one agent, three thou-
1231 sand six hundred and fifty dollars; one assistant agent, two
1232 thousand nine hundred and twenty dollars; two assistant
1233 agents, at two thousand one hundred and ninety dollars
1234 each; necessary traveling expenses of agents actually in-
1235 curred in going to and returning from Alaska, not to exceed
1236 six hundred dollars each per annum; in all, thirteen thousand
1237 three hundred and fifty dollars.

1312 (168) UNDER THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

1313 *For the expenses of a preliminary reconnaissance, to be*
1314 *made under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, to*
1315 *examine the configuration of the conventional boundary-line*

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1316 between Alaska and British Columbia, following the coast
1317 from Portland Channel to the one hundred and forty-first
1318 meridian, and to ascertain and report how far the natural
1319 features of the country permit the accurate location of the
1320 line of demarkation contemplated by the third and fourth
1321 articles of the convention between Great Britain and Russia
1322 of February twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and twenty-
1323 five, which boundary is reaffirmed in the treaty of eighteen
1324 hundred and sixty-seven, whereby Russia ceded the Terri-
1325 tory of Alaska to the United States, fifty thousand dollars,
1326 to be immediately available; and the officer conducting such
1327 reconnaissance shall make such recommendations touching
1328 the practical establishment of the boundary-line as in his
1329 judgment may be necessary.

1646 (197) EDUCATION IN ALASKA.

1647 For the education of the children of school age in the
1648 Territory of Alaska, without reference to race, twenty-five
1649 thousand dollars.

2465 MISCELLANEOUS.

2466 TRAVELING EXPENSES, TERRITORY OF ALASKA:

2467 For the actual and necessary expenses of the judge, mar-
2468 shal, and attorney when traveling in the discharge of their
2469 official duties, one thousand dollars.

2470 RENT AND INCIDENTAL EXPENSES, OFFICE OF MAR-

2471 SHAL, TERRITORY OF ALASKA: For (244) rent of office

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2472 for the marshal, fuel, books, stationery, and other inci-

2473 dental expenses, five hundred dollars.

2526 JUDICIAL.

2527 UNITED STATES COURTS.

2528 EXPENSES OF THE UNITED STATES COURTS: For de-

2529 fraying the expenses of the Supreme Court; of the circuit

2530 and district courts of the United States and of the District

2531 of Columbia and Alaska; of jurors and witnesses; of suits

2710 To enable the Public Printer to comply with the

2711 provisions of the law granting fifteen days' annual leave to

2712 the employees of the Government Printing Office, ninety-

2713 five thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be nec-

2714 essary.

Passed the Senate with amendments February 2, 1887.

Attest: ANSON G. MCCOOK, *Secretary*,

By CHAS. W. JOHNSON, *Chief Clerk*.

April 1891.

THE MORAVIAN MISSIONARY REPORTER.

Alaska Boys Hunting.

NO doubt our young readers are ready for another
of Johnnie Bachman's letters to *The Little
Missionary*. Here is one about Alaska Boys
Hunting:—

BETHLEHEM, Nov. 12, 1890.

DEAR LITTLE MISSIONARY:—The people in
Alaska have a hard time to get enough to eat.
They have no cows or pigs or sheep, and cannot

raise corn and wheat and vegetables ; they must hunt and fish for a living. Even the children five or six years old must help in this work, and when they are twelve or thirteen years old, they must look out for themselves, or they will have to go to bed hungry, and then catch their breakfast in the morning before they eat it.

If berries are not in season, they may have to go hungry pretty long. In spring and summer you can find small salmon berries, cranberries, and whortleberries on the tundra ; but then you must look out, for the hucktachiachiot are there and will be sure to hunt you ; they are dreadfully savage mosquitoes which come in clouds out of the tundra. We also found some small raspberries in the brush on the islands ; and the people eat some kinds of roots too, and the tender shoots of a kind of water plant.

But game and fish are their chief food. There is not a great deal of large game like deer and bears, even in the mountains, and the fox and lynx are not good to eat, although one man ate fox-meat, he said, to cure his

'S WELL.

sores. But there are plenty of common rabbits on the tundra, and spotted grey squirrels in the woods ; and ptarmigan, which are birds about like our prairie chickens in the West. Sometimes large parties of 20 or 30 boys and men go hunting together. If the snow is deep and soft, they put on their snow shoes, and when they come to a good place, the best hunters stop, and the others go around in a big circle and drive the game towards them, and so they often kill a lot of rabbits and other game.

over

small goat ; we also shot a duck which we cooked for our supper.

Early the next morning David wakened George and me by shooting two wild geese near the tent. After we had our breakfast we started down the river to shoot more geese, but we did not see any, and as it was getting very cold towards evening we went on home to Bethel, and got there safe and sound about half-past 9 o'clock ; so our hunting trip was over and was not a big success. Next time I must tell you about "Alaska boys fishing."

JOHN H. BACHMAN.



